



## Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley District 7

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### CONSENT CALENDAR

July 25, 2006

To: Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council

From: Councilmembers Kriss Worthington and Darryl Moore

Subject: Oppose Proposition 85: California Constitutional Amendment requiring parental notification for abortions

#### RECOMMENDATION:

That the Berkeley City Council oppose again another Constitutional Amendment that would require health care providers to notify the parents of women under the age of 18 before providing abortion services.

#### BACKGROUND:

The same supporters of the failed Proposition 73 from last November have reintroduced an almost identical ballot initiative for this November's general election. Proposition 85 would amend the state constitution to require health care providers to notify the parents of a woman considering abortion, who is under the age of 18. As in the case of Proposition 73, Proposition 85 would require a 48 hour waiting period before the doctor can perform an abortion.

In addition to the unrealistic original "judicial bypass" allowed for extreme and dire emergencies, Proposition 85 allows a minor to obtain a court order waiving the parental notification based on *clear and convincing* evidence of a minor's maturity or best interests. This minor improvement would do little to prevent the detriment caused to the portion of teenagers who, for a variety of reasons, are unwilling to reveal their pregnancy to their parents. For more information, visit the Secretary of State's website at: [http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections\\_j.htm](http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections_j.htm)

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

NONE

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