

RA 1985

ABORTION

WHEREAS Jewish law recognizes a qualitative difference between the life of a fetus and established human life; and

WHEREAS abortion, though never condoned as elective birth control, is mandated by Jewish law when the pregnancy threatens the life or well-being of the mother; and

WHEREAS legislation outlawing abortion would compromise our obligation to preserve the established life, that is the life and well-being of pregnant women;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rabbinical Assembly oppose any legislation, including a Constitutional amendment, aimed at outlawing abortion.

RA 1975

XIII. ABORTION

Be it resolved that the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards of The Rabbinical Assembly review its previous decision on matters pertaining to abortion, and issue a statement for public information setting forth the traditional Jewish view on therapeutic and non-therapeutic abortion. This view is to be presented as the official position of The Rabbinical Assembly and of Conservative Judaism, to offset previous statements made by lay representatives of the movement.

This resolution was duly seconded and, after brief discussion, adopted.