



**Media Contact:** Andy Perez  
aperez@zerepa.com

## **The LGBTQ Center Long Beach statement on the potential overturn of Roe v. Wade**

**Long Beach, CA (May 6, 2022)** – Today The LGBTQ Center Long Beach, represented by Center Board Secretary **Eduardo Lara** participated in a press conference to discuss the potential overturn of Roe v. Wade. Also appearing were **Rob Bonta**, Attorney General, State of California, **Lena Gonzalez**, Senate Majority Whip, Senate District 33 (Long Beach), Long Beach Mayor **Robert Garcia**, and abortion rights activists. An edited version of Lara’s speech follows.

The LGBTQ Center Long Beach stands strong in solidarity with a woman’s right to choose and other genders who also stand to risk losing their bodily autonomy with the risk of overturning Roe v. Wade. The Center is a values driven organization. One of those values is intersectionality.

It is important to note the intersection of the LGBTQ+ community with reproductive justice. It is also important to note that other genders including transgender men and those who identify as gender queer are impacted by this threat to social justice.

We also need to make sure we situate the role of cisgender men as critical allies in this fight to protect Roe v. Wade when we’re asked. In that role, we must always center and uplift women and others impacted by this potential decision.

The arc of this political moment speaks to the intersections of what is at stake. Threats to transgender youth and their parents in Texas. Threats to LGBTQ curriculum and teachers who include lessons on sexual and gender identity in Florida. This is a longer arc of the backlash to many social justice issues and struggles that have occurred in the last decade, including the fight by and for Black Lives Matter.

When put this in perspective, WE, the countless supporters, women, transgender men, people who are gender queer, and allies are the answer to this latest injustice.

This is about women in poverty, women of color, undocumented immigrant women, transgender men, those who identify as gender queer and those who suffer the most when we allow social injustice to march forward.

And the only answer to this is “when there’s a threat to justice anywhere” we all need to come out to “move that moral arc of the universe” forward with justice and love.