WHEREAS (1) Washington law imposes certain restrictions on districts such as Public Hospital District No. 1, Skagit County, Washington ("Skagit Regional Health" or "SRH"). Those restrictions include:

(a) Subsection .160 of Washington’s Reproductive Privacy Act (chapter 9.02 RCW), which says that “If the state provides, directly or by contract, maternity care benefits, services, or information to women through any program administered or funded in whole or in part by the state, the state shall also provide women otherwise eligible for any such program with substantially equivalent benefits, services, or information to permit them to voluntarily terminate their pregnancies.”

(b) Subsection .170(6) of that Privacy Act, which then defines the above “state” to include municipal corporations such as Skagit Regional Health.

(c) Subsection .150 of that Privacy Act, which mandates that “No person ... may be required by law or contract in any circumstances to participate in the performance of an abortion if such person ... objects to so doing. No person may be discriminated against in employment or professional privileges because of the person's participation or refusal to participate in the termination of a pregnancy.”

(d) Subsection .160(1) of Washington’s Health Care Access Act, which provides that “every individual possesses a fundamental right to exercise their religious beliefs and conscience.”

(e) Subsection .160(2) of that Access Act, which mandates that “No individual health care provider ... or health care facility may be required by law or contract in any circumstances to participate in the provision of or payment for a specific service if they object to so doing for reason of conscience or religion. No person may be discriminated against in employment or professional privileges because of such objection.”

WHEREAS (2) Skagit Regional Health has adopted a policy adhering to the full requirements of the Reproductive Privacy Act ("the Policy"); and

WHEREAS (3) Skagit Regional Health intents to, and believes it does, comply with the above provisions of Washington law and with the Policy;

WHEREAS (4) Skagit Regional Health has received a threat of costly litigation by persons claiming that Skagit Regional Health does not comply with such provisions of Washington law; and
WHEREAS (5) Skagit Regional Health intends that adopting an official Resolution to formally
reiterate its compliance with the above provisions of Washington law and the Policy will make
such litigation unnecessary;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Public Hospital District
No. 1, Skagit County, Washington (“Skagit Regional Health” or “SRH”) as follows:

1. SRH provides the termination services described in this Resolution, with
“termination” defined to mean any medical treatment intended to induce the termination of a
pregnancy except for the purpose of producing a live birth, regardless of whether medically
indicated or elective.

2. SRH does not prohibit, or have a policy against, its healthcare providers
performing or participating in medication or surgical terminations as long as they have the
appropriate hospital privileges and follow federal and state laws and regulations.

3. Consistent with the previously-noted provisions of Washington law, SRH permits
its healthcare providers to opt out of participating in a termination if they object to participating.

4. SRH’s facilities are available to its healthcare providers to perform surgical
terminations, including dilation and curettage procedures, dilation and evacuation procedures,
and inductions. SRH provides surgical termination services directly to patients requesting those
services when physicians and support staff agree to participate in that termination. To provide
those termination services at SRH’s facilities in the event that SRH providers exercise their legal
right to opt out of participating in a termination, SRH will use reasonable efforts to establish a
reasonable contract with an outside provider for the performance of such surgical terminations at
SRH’s facilities and as required provide information to assist in the referral of patients to a
qualified provider. In the event that SRH providers exercise their legal right to opt out of
participating in a surgical termination for a patient, SRH also provides patients referrals to one or
more other healthcare providers in our region whose employees do not exercise their legal right
to opt out of participating in such terminations.

5. SRH’s facilities are available to its healthcare providers to provide medication
terminations. SRH provides medication termination services directly to patients requesting those
services when physicians and support staff agree to participate in that termination. To provide
medication termination services at SRH’s facilities in the event that SRH providers exercise their
legal right to opt out of participating in that termination, SRH will use reasonable efforts to
establish a reasonable contract with an outside provider for providing such terminations at SRH’s
facilities and as required provide information to assist in the referral of patients to a qualified
provider. In the event that SRH providers exercise their legal right to opt out of participating in a
medication termination for a patient, SRH also provides patients referrals to one or more other
healthcare providers in our region whose employees do not exercise their legal right to opt out of
participating in such terminations.

6. SRH provides the above women’s and family health planning services as part of
the patient-provider relationship established through SRH’s Primary Care services. By integrating
women’s and family health planning services across all of its services lines, SRH helps protect the identity of its patients seeking termination services by not holding them separate and distinct from other patient populations. SRH strives to treat all patients with equality and in a welcoming manner that is free from discrimination based on a patient’s expressed preferences related to women’s and reproductive healthcare services.

7. SRH’s Executive Team shall by the March 2015 regular board meeting of this Resolution, report to the Board of Commissioners on the status of securing reasonable contracts with non-SRH providers to provide terminations at SRH facilities and on the adequacy of referral opportunities.

8. SRH’s Executive Team shall, within 30 days of this Resolution, also report to the Board of Commissioners on the information SRH provides to patients concerning termination services, choices, and options. That report should include, but not be limited to, the information provided to the public on SRH’s website.

9. SRH’s Executive Team is authorized to enter into an agreement with persons or entities threatening litigation consistent with the terms hereof.

ADOPTED by vote of the Board of Commissioners, this 9th day of February, 2015

Balisa Koetje, President

Jeff Miller, Secretary

D. Johnson

Stan Olsen

Shelton