

REFERENCE TITLE: removal; Margaret Sanger

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-fifth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2022

SCR 1006

Introduced by
Senator Rogers

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE REMOVAL OF MARGARET SANGER FROM THE ARIZONA WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, in her book "Woman and the New Race," Margaret Sanger
2 wrote, "The most merciful thing that the large family does to one of its
3 infant members is to kill it" and that birth control "is nothing more or
4 less than the facilitation of the process of weeding out the unfit, of
5 preventing the birth of defectives or of those who will become
6 defectives"; and

7 Whereas, in her article entitled "The Eugenic Value of Birth Control
8 Propaganda," Margaret Sanger wrote, "I wish to take advantage of the
9 present opportunity to point out that the unbalance between the birth rate
10 of the 'unfit' and the 'fit,' admittedly the greatest present menace to
11 civilization, can never be rectified by the inauguration of a cradle
12 competition between these two classes" and that "the most urgent problem
13 today is how to limit and discourage the over-fertility of the mentally
14 and physically defective"; and

15 Whereas, in her writings entitled "America Needs a Code for Babies,"
16 Margaret Sanger wrote, "no woman shall have the legal right to bear a
17 child, and no man shall have the right to become a father, without a
18 permit for parenthood"; and

19 Whereas, in her article "My Way to Peace," Margaret Sanger urged
20 that we should "apply a stern and rigid policy of sterilization and
21 segregation to that grade of population whose progeny is tainted, or whose
22 inheritance is such that objectionable traits may be transmitted to
23 offspring"; and

24 Whereas, Margaret Sanger endorsed the 1927 Buck v. Bell decision
25 written by Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., in which the United States Supreme
26 Court ruled that compulsory sterilization of the "unfit" was allowable
27 under the Constitution--a decision that enabled states to sterilize
28 citizens deemed unfit without their consent and sometimes even without
29 their knowledge; and

30 Whereas, in her book "High Lights in the History of Birth Control,"
31 Margaret Sanger wrote that birth control "means the release and
32 cultivation of the better elements in our society, and the gradual
33 suppression, elimination and eventual extinction, of defective
34 stocks -- those human weeds which threaten the blooming of the finest
35 flowers of American civilization"; and

36 Whereas, in her article "Morality and Birth Control," Margaret
37 Sanger wrote, "all of our problems are the result of overbreeding among
38 the working class..." and that it must lead "ultimately to a cleaner
39 race"; and

40 Whereas, in her writing "The Pivot of Civilization," Margaret Sanger
41 wrote "Feeble-mindedness perpetuates itself from the ranks of those who
42 are blandly indifferent to their racial responsibilities." She further
43 opined that "this type" is "perpetuating those direst evils in which we
44 must, if civilization is to survive, extirpate by the very roots"; and

1 Whereas, in her writing "The Pope's Position on Birth Control,"
2 Margaret Sanger wrote that Catholic doctrine is "definitely against...race
3 improvement."
4 Therefore
5 Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of
6 Representatives concurring:
7 That the Members of the Legislature, in light of Margaret Sanger's
8 views espousing racism and promoting eugenics, support the removal of
9 Margaret Sanger from the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame.