



# Family Planning Coalition

c/o National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association

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June 23, 2015

The Honorable Hal Rogers  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-103, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita M. Lowey  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey:

The fiscal year (FY) 2016 draft of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) funding bill that was passed by the House Appropriations Labor-HHS Subcommittee proposes a complete elimination of the Title X family planning program, the nation's only dedicated source of family planning funding. **The undersigned organizations urge you to oppose this drastic measure and protect the millions of poor and low-income women and men who depend on the Title X program for affordable family planning and reproductive health care services.**

Our organizations collectively represent millions of administrators, providers, patients, researchers, and advocates who share the common mission of supporting and protecting federal funds, like Title X, that provide affordable family planning services. By standing with us and opposing Title X's elimination, you will help protect access to a public health program that serves nearly 4.6 million poor and low-income men and women across the country in 4,200 health care centers. These centers, and their dedicated staffs, helped prevent 1.1 million unintended pregnancies in 2012, which would likely have resulted in 527,000 unintended births and 363,000 abortions.<sup>i</sup> Moreover, supporting the Title X program makes good fiscal sense. For every dollar invested in publicly funded family planning care, over \$7 dollars are saved in Medicaid spending.<sup>ii</sup>

Title X has already sustained a series of cuts over that last five years that are compromising the program's capacity to serve those in need. For example, providers have been forced to lay off staff and limit service hours and offerings. As a result of funding reductions between FY 2010 and FY 2013 alone, 667,000 patients served have been lost from the program without indication that they have sought care from other health care providers—a troubling fact given that 70% of Title X clients have incomes at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (an income of \$11,770 a year in 2015),<sup>iii</sup> and six in ten individuals identify Title X-supported health centers as their usual source of care.<sup>iv</sup>

Not only are these cuts damaging to public health and fiscally irresponsible, they are also unpopular. Recent polling shows that women voters are three times more likely to support a member of Congress who wants an increase in federal funding for family planning than a member of Congress who wants to cut funding.<sup>v</sup> **As the House of Representatives works to advance its FY 2016 Labor-HHS appropriations bill, we respectfully request that Title X funding be restored.**

Sincerely,

The Below Signed Organizations:

30 for 30 Campaign  
Academic Pediatric Association  
Advocates for Youth  
AIDS Alabama  
AIDS Foundation of Chicago  
AIDS United  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association of University Women  
American Civil Liberties Union  
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Pediatric Society  
American Psychological Association  
American Public Health Association  
American Sexual Health Association  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine  
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care  
Association of Reproductive Health Professionals  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Black Women's Health Imperative  
Cascade AIDS Project  
Catholics for Choice  
Center for Reproductive Rights  
Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.  
HealthHIV  
Healthy Teen Network  
HIV Medicine Association  
Housing Works  
Human Rights Campaign  
Institute for Science and Human Values, Inc  
League of Women Voters of the United States  
NARAL Pro-Choice America  
Nashville CARES  
National Abortion Federation  
National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
National Center for Lesbian Rights  
National Coalition of STD Directors  
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association  
National Health Law Program  
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health  
National Partnership for Women & Families

National Women's Health Network  
Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health  
Pediatric Policy Council  
Physicians for Reproductive Health  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
Population Connection Action Fund  
Population Institute  
Positive Women's Network-USA  
Pozitively Healthy  
Project Inform  
Public Health Institute  
Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice  
Reproductive Health Technologies Project  
Republican Majority for Choice  
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States  
Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine  
Society for Pediatric Research  
The AIDS Institute  
The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy  
The National Coalition for LGBT Health  
URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity  
National Women's Law Center  
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum

Cc: House Appropriations Committee Members

Cc: House Leadership

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<sup>i</sup> Frost, J.J., Zolna MR and Frohwirth L, *Contraceptive Needs and Services, 2012 Update*, New York: Guttmacher Institute, 2014, Available online at <http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/win/contraceptive-needs-2012.pdf>.

<sup>ii</sup> Frost, J. J., Sonfield, A., Zolna, M. R. and Finer, L. B. (2014), Return on Investment: A Fuller Assessment of the Benefits and Cost Savings of the US Publicly Funded Family Planning Program. *Milbank Quarterly*, 92: 696–749. doi:10.1111/1468-0009.12080

<sup>iii</sup> Christina Fowler, Julia Gable, Jiantong Wang, and Emily McClure, Title X Family Planning Annual Report: 2013 National Summary, (Research Triangle Park, NC: RTI International, November 2014), <http://www.hhs.gov/opa/pdfs/fpar-2013-national-summary.pdf>.

<sup>iv</sup> Frost JJ, U.S. Women's Use of Sexual and Reproductive Health Services: Trends, Sources of Care and Factors Associated with Use, 1995–2010, New York:Guttmacher Institute, 2013, <<http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/sources-of-care-2013.pdf>>.

<sup>v</sup> Polling conducted by the National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association in 2015 among a representative sample of female Republican, Democratic and Independent voters.