



The National Campaign

to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy

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Congress Passes Bill Extending PREP for One Year **A Statement from The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy**

(Washington, DC)—Last night, the Senate passed a year-long “patch” to maintain current Medicare payments to doctors. The bill also includes one-year extensions of the Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) and the Title V State Abstinence Education Program, and a six-month extension of the Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting program (MIECHV). The bill—H.R. 4302—passed the House last week, and is expected to be signed by the President.

“This is an encouraging step that will allow important programs that help to reduce teen and unplanned pregnancy to continue in the near future while we all work towards longer-term reauthorization,” said Sarah Brown, CEO of The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy. “We are particularly pleased to see extensions of two evidence-based programs, PREP and MIECHV.” PREP funds grants to states, community groups, tribes, and tribal organizations to provide evidence-based programs to prevent teen pregnancy for some of the most vulnerable young people. MIECHV provides funding for voluntary evidence-based home visitation programs, which have been found to improve prenatal and birth outcomes and early child health and development, as well as to reduce future unplanned pregnancies.

“We thank the House and Senate for the bipartisan support of these programs,” said Brown. “We also encourage Congress to support full five-year reauthorizations in the future in order to build on the progress made to date. Funding programs that work to reduce teen and unplanned pregnancy will save taxpayers billions of dollars every year, improve educational attainment, contribute to our economic competitiveness, improve the wellbeing of children and families, and reduce abortion as well.”

About The National Campaign. The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy seeks to improve the lives and future prospects of children and families. Our specific strategy is to prevent teen pregnancy and unplanned pregnancy among single, young adults. We support a combination of responsible values and behavior by both men and women and responsible policies in both the public and private sectors. If we are successful, child and family wellbeing will improve.