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For Immediate Release

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Senate Bill Maintains Critical Funding for Programs to Reduce Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy
A Statement from The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy

(Washington, DC)—On June 9, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed its version of the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education (LHHS) appropriations bill for FY 2017. The bill, which passed by a vote of 29-1, represents the first bipartisan bill passed by the Senate Appropriations Committee in seven years. The legislation maintains current funding levels for programs that are critical to reducing teen and unplanned pregnancy. Specifically, it would fund:

- The evidence-based Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program (TPPP) at \$101 million.
- The Title X Family Planning Program at \$286.5 million.

The bill would also provide \$15 million for the competitive abstinence education grant program (sometimes called Sexual Risk Avoidance), a \$5 million increase over the FY 2016 level.

“We commend the Senate Appropriations Committee for their bipartisan recognition of the value of the evidence-based Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program and the Title X Family Planning Program,” said Ginny Ehrlich, CEO of The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy. “Teen childbearing has declined 35 percent since the TPPP began in 2010, which is more than double the decline in any other five-year period. Even so, nearly one in four girls in this country become pregnant before the age of 20, and great disparities in pregnancy and birth rates remain. Continuing to make progress—and in particular to reduce disparities—will contribute to improving educational attainment, better maternal and infant health, a stronger workforce, less abortion, and saving tax dollars. We urge Congress to follow the lead of Senate Appropriators and fully fund these programs.”

About The National Campaign. If we are successful in reducing unplanned pregnancy among teens and young women, child and family wellbeing will improve, there will be less poverty, and more young men and women will complete their education or achieve other life goals. For more information, visit www.TheNationalCampaign.org.