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The National Campaign Opposes House of Representatives Resolution Weakening the Title X Family Planning Program

We urge the Senate to oppose this resolution

(Washington, DC)—In response to the recent passage of House Joint Resolution 43 (H.J. Res 43) by a vote of 230 to 188 in the U.S. House of Representatives, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy calls on the Senate to protect the Title X Family Planning Program and oppose this harmful resolution.

Title X funding provides needed contraceptive services to more than 4 million low-income women and men each year. The resolution would repeal the recently released rule clarifying that no recipient of Title X family planning funding making sub-grants can prohibit participation based on anything other than the ability to provide high quality family planning services. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) noted, when the final rule was published in December 2016, that of the more than 145,000 comments it received, the overwhelming majority (91%) were supportive of funding Title X.

“We are disappointed that the House of Representatives voted to weaken the Title X Family Planning Program. Nearly 20 million women eligible for publicly funded contraception already lack reasonable access to contraception. The demand for publicly funded contraception is already far greater than the supply, and excluding high quality providers from Title X will only exacerbate this challenge,” said Ginny Ehrlich, CEO of The National Campaign. “Polling consistently shows that Title X enjoys broad, bi-partisan support—75% of adults (including 66% of Republicans and 84% of Democrats) favor continuing the program and 81% of the public believe that contraceptive services should be a basic part of women’s health care.”

Recent [research](#) conducted by The National Campaign shows that nearly 20 million American women live in contraceptive deserts—defined by their lack of reasonable access to public health care sites offering the full range of contraceptive methods. In fact, [research](#) shows that community health centers—often cited as the alternative to some Title X providers—face considerable challenges when it comes to the quality and range of contraceptive methods they offer, despite being important providers of health care services.

“At a time when there are potentially huge changes coming to our health care system, the last thing we should do is weaken the already fragile family planning safety net by excluding high quality providers who are able to offer the full range of contraceptive methods, including the most effective ones,” Ehrlich said.

“This is the gold standard of care, and the low-income women and men served by Title X deserve nothing less. We urge the U.S. Senate to oppose this measure and help to ensure that all women, regardless of income, have the power to decide if, when, and under what circumstances to become pregnant,” Ehrlich stated. “Maintaining a strong Title X program provides the highest quality contraceptive care that will help accomplish the widely shared goals of reducing unplanned pregnancy and abortion, saving tax dollars, and strengthening our families.”

About The National Campaign: The National Campaign is a private, non-partisan, non-profit organization that seeks to improve the lives and future prospects of children and families by preventing teen and unplanned pregnancy. Please visit us at www.TheNationalCampaign.org or follow along on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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