



For Immediate Release  
March 31, 2017

Contact: Julian Teixeira  
202-478-8564 / [jteixeira@thenc.org](mailto:jteixeira@thenc.org)

## **The National Campaign Disappointed that Senate Votes to Overturn Protection for Title X Funding**

*Passage of resolution weakens family planning program*

**(Washington, DC)**—The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy is disappointed that Congress has failed to protect the Title X Family Planning Program—a response to yesterday’s Senate passage of the House Joint Resolution 43 (H.J. Res 43) by a vote of 51-50 (Vice President Pence cast the tie-breaking vote).

Title X funding provides needed contraceptive services to more than 4 million low-income women and men each year. The resolution repeals 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 Senate voted to weaken the Title X Family Planning Program,” said Ginny Ehrlich, CEO of The National Campaign. “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. 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.”

[Polling](#) commissioned by The National Campaign 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. The research also found that in 105 counties, Planned Parenthood is the only safety-net clinic

offering the full range of contraceptive methods—the gold standard of care. Like all Americans, low-income women and men served by Title X deserve nothing less than the highest quality care.

“We urge President Trump not to sign this resolution into law. We must 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, with the highest quality contraceptive care, will help accomplish the widely shared goals of reducing unplanned pregnancy and abortion, saving American taxpayers’ dollars and strengthening our families.”

**About The National Campaign:** The National Campaign is a private, non-profit organization that seeks to improve the lives and future prospects of children and families by preventing teen and unplanned pregnancy. Please visit [www.TheNationalCampaign.org](http://www.TheNationalCampaign.org) to find out more.

###