

February 15, 2017

Dear Member of Congress:

Our organizations urge you to vote NO on H.J.Res. 43 and S.J.Res. 13, resolutions that will allow states to deny funding for the contraceptive and preventive care our patients receive at Title X clinics. This move would further reduce, and in many cases eliminate, low-income and adolescent patients' access to essential health care by discriminating against providers for reasons unrelated to medical evidence or best practices.

The Title X program is the only federal grant program exclusively dedicated to providing these patients with access to effective family planning and related preventive health services.ⁱ More than 4 million patients receive care at Title-X funded clinics.ⁱⁱ Not one penny of Title X money is used to fund abortions.

Our Nation's unintended pregnancy rate is at a 30-year low, and we now have the lowest rate of teen pregnancies in our history. These monumental successes are due in large part to increased access to contraception for our patients – often through Title X clinics.

The access to care that Title X clinics provide is critical to improving the health of our patients and to decreasing health care costs for all Americans. We urge Congress to continue to ensure effective and accessible reproductive health care for all populations in any future policymaking and oppose political interference in the patient-provider relationship.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Pediatrics
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses

ⁱ Office of Population Affairs, *Title X Family Planning Program Priorities*, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, <http://www.hhs.gov/opa/title-x-family-planning/title-x-policies/program-priorities/index.html> (last visited Sept. 29, 2016).

ⁱⁱ Office of Population Affairs, *Title X Family Planning Annual Report 2015*, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, <https://www.hhs.gov/opa/sites/default/files/title-x-fpar-2015.pdf> (last visited February 14, 2017).