

CONCERNED
WOMEN *for* AMERICA
LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

June 19, 2019

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Chairman
House Committee on Energy & Commerce
United States House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden
Ranking Member
House Committee on Energy & Commerce
United States House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member Walden,

On behalf of the hundreds of thousands of members of Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee (CWALAC), we urge you to uphold the original intent behind Title X funding and honor the American people's longstanding desire to exclude abortion services from this program.

As you know, the Title X Family Planning Program was authorized in 1970 and is intended to assist in "voluntary family planning projects," offering "a broad range of acceptable and effective family planning methods and services," and may not fund "programs where abortion is a method of family planning." The law is clear: there must be a distinction between abortion and Title X family planning funds.

CWALAC wants to make sure that the voices of the millions of women who proudly stand for the sanctity of life and the intrinsic value of every human being, outside or inside the womb, as created in the image of God are not ignored. Women are not a monolithic, single-minded block of people who all support the same things, but a beautiful tapestry of many different expressions that should all be respected and celebrated. Yes, many women support abortion. But many also stand strongly against it.

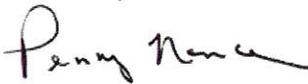
And on the issue of our tax dollars being used to support abortion, the overwhelming majority of Americans, both male and female, Republican or Democrat, oppose the taxpayer funding of abortion. One recent poll found 75 percent oppose taxpayer funding of abortion.¹ The breakdown included 94 percent Republicans, 80 percent independents and 56 percent of Democrats. This is not a partisan issue for the American people.

¹ Marist Poll, "Americans' Opinions on Abortion," January 2019 available at <https://www.kofc.org/un/en/resources/communications/american-attitudes-abortion-knights-of-columbus-marist-poll-slides.pdf>

The Trump Administration's recently finalized Protect Life Rule reflects the original intent of the Title X program and the American people's desires by delineating a bright line between abortion funding and Title X activities that ensures compliance with the program. For too long, the Title X program has been used as a slush fund for the abortion industry; this rule assures that comes to an end. Requiring physical and financial separation between Title X services and abortion is a common-sense rule that is desperately needed to ensure the program's integrity. This rule does not cut funding for family planning services by a dime but assures that Title X funds are directed in the way Congress and the American people intended.

At a time when we have seen many abortion providers embroiled in a plethora of scandals,² it is imperative that the federal government be proactive in their oversight of these programs. We urge you to uphold the law, stand with the values of the American people, and refuse the temptation to reduce this issue to partisan slogans.

Sincerely,



Penny Nance,
CEO & President

cc. House Committee on Energy & Commerce Members

² See, "U.S. House of Representatives' Select Investigative Panel on Infant Lives Final Report," available at https://archives-energycommerce.house.gov/sites/republicans.energycommerce.house.gov/files/documents/Select_Investigative_Panel_Final_Report.pdf; "Grassley Refers Planned Parenthood, Fetal Tissue Procurement Organizations to FBI, Justice Dept. for Investigation," available at <https://www.grassley.senate.gov/news/news-releases/grassley-refers-planned-parenthood-fetal-tissue-procurement-organizations-fbi>; International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) accused of 'provid[ing] prostitutes for staff, donors and guests' attending official functions, available at <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7045455/British-sexual-health-charity-handed-132m-foreign-aid-provided-prostitutes-staff.html>; "Institutional Dangerous Sex Promotion at Planned Parenthood," available at <https://www.plannedparenthoodexposed.com/sexed/>; "Denver lawsuit accuses abortion clinic of not reporting rape of 13-year-old," available at <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/jul/11/denver-lawsuit-accuses-abortion-clinic-not-report/#ixzz3giFL4FZh>, etc.