

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 27, 2018

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump,

We write to urge you to reverse course on actions detrimental to women's rights and health. The latest move by your Administration to alter the Title X family planning program to ban certain health providers, including Planned Parenthood providers, undermines a woman's right to make her own reproductive health care decisions.

You have said repeatedly that government should not get between patients and their doctors. We agree – the government should not have a role in the decisions between women and their doctors, including about reproductive health care. Imposing a “gag order,” as described by the American Medical Association, on medical professionals will prohibit Title X providers from giving patients full information. Further, removing requirements within the Title X program that family planning services be medically sound opens the door for federal funds to be funneled to fraudulent entities that give patients false information and misleading advice.

Not only would the rule block access to information for the four million people who rely on Title X each year, but it would also explicitly target Planned Parenthood—a critical health care provider in communities across the country, particularly in underserved areas. Planned Parenthood health centers see 2.4 million patients every year, providing critical medical services that include cancer screenings, HIV and STI testing, and the full range of contraceptives. They serve 41 percent of Title X patients nationwide. Women trust Planned Parenthood health care providers to offer high-quality care that is compassionate and respectful of each individual woman's decision regarding the medical care that is best for her and her family. An estimated 430,000 unintended pregnancies and 140,000 abortions are prevented each year by the services offered through Planned Parenthood health centers.

The overwhelming majority of Americans oppose actions like the domestic gag rule and support patients being able to get their health care through Planned Parenthood providers and other reproductive health care providers, regardless of their form of health insurance.

It is a woman's constitutionally protected right to make her own decisions about her own health care. We urge you to abandon efforts that would allow politicians in Washington, D.C. to further interfere with women's rights and access to health care.

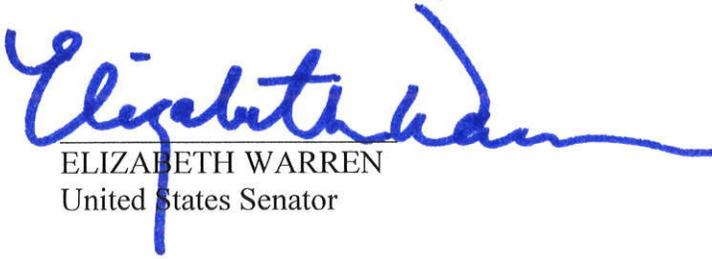
Sincerely,



DIANNE FEINSTEIN
United States Senator



TAMMY BALDWIN
United States Senator



ELIZABETH WARREN
United States Senator



KAMALA D. HARRIS
United States Senator



AMY KLOBUCHAR
United States Senator



KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND
United States Senator



MAZIE K. HIRONO
United States Senator



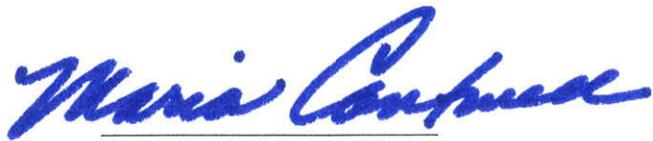
TINA SMITH
United States Senator



MARGARET WOOD HASSAN
United States Senator



TAMMY DUCKWORTH
United States Senator



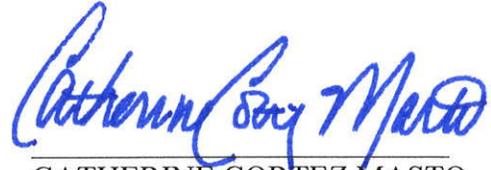
MARIA CANTWELL
United States Senator



JEANNE SHAHEEN
United States Senator



DEBBIE STABENOW
United States Senator



CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO
United States Senator



PATTY MURRAY
United States Senator



CLAIRE MCCASKILL
United States Senator