

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20510

May 22, 2023

President Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

We write today to voice our strong opposition to your Administration’s plan to establish a national “hotline” to counsel individuals on how to obtain an abortion and certain family planning services.<sup>1</sup> The hotline would utilize taxpayer dollars to launch a national campaign for abortion referral services, undermining the intentions of the Title X Family Planning Program.

Title X of the Public Health Service Act was enacted with the intention to provide family planning services for low-income women.<sup>2</sup> The underlying Title X statute (42 U.S.C. 300a-6) prohibits Title X dollars from funding abortion as a method of family planning.<sup>3</sup> In October of 2021, the Biden Administration finalized a rule that violated the spirit of this law by actively supporting abortion.<sup>4</sup> The rule provided Title X funding to clinics that perform elective abortions and requires grantees to make abortion referrals. Money is fungible; when abortion providers receive Title X dollars, it makes other funding available to provide abortions. The Government Accountability Office found that Title X was the largest source of discretionary funding for Planned Parenthood – providing approximately \$60 million annually.<sup>5</sup>

The Administration’s new announcement goes even further in using Title X funds to promote abortion. The \$1.5 million grant would establish a hotline to provide counseling referrals for several services, among which includes ‘pregnancy termination’.<sup>6</sup> Your Administration has

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<sup>1</sup> The White House, *FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Announces Actions to Protect Patient Privacy at the Third Meeting of the Task Force on Reproductive Healthcare Access*, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/04/12/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-actions-to-protect-patient-privacy-at-the-third-meeting-of-the-task-force-on-reproductive-healthcare-access/>. May 1, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Cornell Law School, *42 U.S. Code § 300a-6 - Prohibition against funding programs using abortion as family planning method*, <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/42/300a-6>. May 1, 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Id.

<sup>4</sup> Department of Health and Human Services, *42 CFR Part 59*, <https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2021-21542.pdf>. May 1, 2023.

<sup>5</sup> Government Accountability Office. “[Health Care Funding: Planned Parenthood Federation of America Affiliates’ Expenditures of Federal Funds, 2016 through 2018.](https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-21-608r.pdf)” Table 2 on Page 12. June 2021 <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-21-608r.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> Id.

stated that only current Title X grantees, who you require to be willing to refer for abortion, will be considered to run the hotline.

We urge you to recognize that it is a grievous misuse of funds for the federal government to promote abortion. The majority of Americans recognize this fact and do not want their tax dollars to go toward funding abortions.<sup>7</sup> In a recent poll, 60 percent of Americans did not support tax-payer funded abortions.<sup>8</sup>

Instead of funding a hotline that appears to be biased toward encouraging and promoting elective abortion, we urge the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a comprehensive hotline and/or website with a list of the holistic care and resources available from the federal, state, and local governments and private entities to assist pregnant women and girls and their unborn children. This resource list would include where to receive services related to pregnancy help, casework assistance, adoption information resources, financial assistance, housing, transportation, clothing, and job assistance. The resource list would also include information about life-affirming comprehensive health care services, including primary care, obstetrical and gynecological care, and mental health services.

Providing a resource list of true family planning services that are available to pregnant women and girls would emphasize the support and provisions offered by pregnancy care centers across the United States. According to one report, in 2019 alone, a network of 2,700 pregnancy care centers served approximately 2 million individuals with services worth roughly \$266 million,<sup>9</sup> which included medical services that were provided free or at a reduced cost. Pregnancy care centers offer several support and education services, like Prenatal and Parenting Classes, Childbirth Classes, Breastfeeding Consultations, and After-Abortion Support and Recovery.<sup>10</sup> Additionally, pregnancy care centers also offer material support like diapers, wipes, car seats, baby clothing, and strollers.

As shown above, the \$1.5 million of tax-payer money could be spent in a more fiscally responsible manner that does not aim at increasing the number of abortions in America. We remain firmly opposed to any plan to fund the establishment of a “national abortion hotline”. We strongly urge you to refrain from taking any such action, and to respect the original intent of Title X funding and the sanctity of human life.

Sincerely,

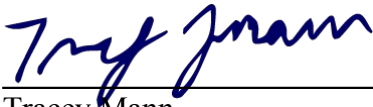
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<sup>7</sup> Charlotte Lozier Institute, *Lives Saved Impact at U.S. Pregnancy Help Centers*, [https://lozierinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Lives-Saved-Impact-at-US-Pregnancy-Help-Centers\\_On-Point-83.pdf](https://lozierinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Lives-Saved-Impact-at-US-Pregnancy-Help-Centers_On-Point-83.pdf). May 2, 2023.

<sup>8</sup> Knights of Columbus, *America's Opinions on Abortion*, <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/communications/polls/2023-kofc-marist-poll-presentation.pdf>. May 1, 2023.

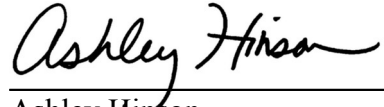
<sup>9</sup> Id

<sup>10</sup> Id



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Tracey Mann  
Member of Congress



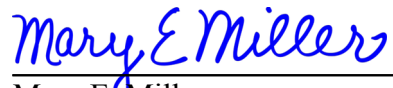
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Ashley Hinson  
Member of Congress



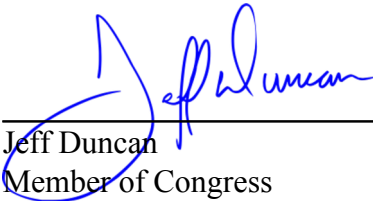
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Daniel Webster  
Member of Congress



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Member of Congress



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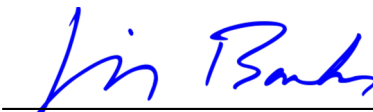
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Diana Harshbarger  
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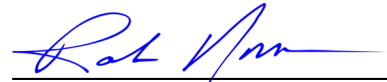
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John R. Moolenaar  
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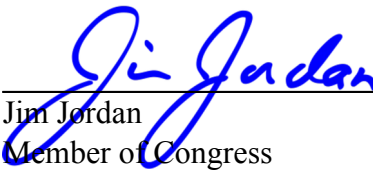
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Andy Harris, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress



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Jim Jordan  
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David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



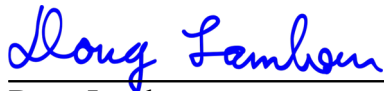
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Dan Crenshaw  
Member of Congress



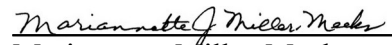
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Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress



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Member of Congress




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M.D.  
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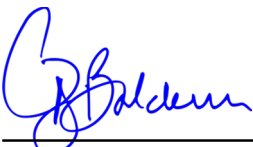
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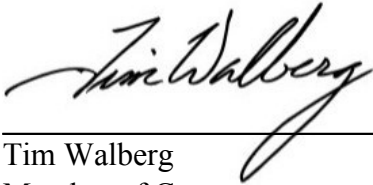
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Cory Mills  
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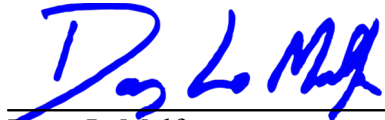
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Ronny L. Jackson, M.D.  
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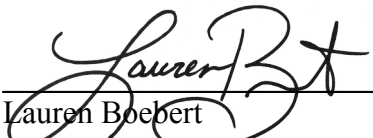
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Larry Bucshon, M.D.  
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Eric Burlison  
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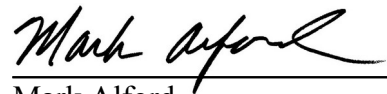
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Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress



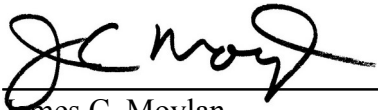
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Gus M. Bilirakis  
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