



April 27, 2017

The Honorable
United State House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of our members nationwide, Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee (CWALAC) wishes to express our support for H.R. 1628, the American Health Care Act (AHCA). **If this bill reaches the floor for a vote, CWALAC will score in favor of final passage.**

The AHCA includes explicit language that protects life. The current version of the AHCA reinforces the fact that abortion is not health care by prohibiting tax-credit-eligible plans from covering elective abortion. Furthermore, the AHCA redirects Federal Medicaid reimbursement from Planned Parenthood to Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), which outnumber Planned Parenthoods almost 20-1.¹

Although this bill cannot repeal all of ObamaCare, it does chip away at key parts of the law that are responsible for American's rising premiums. The current language of the AHCA will allow individuals who do not have access to employer-based coverage or qualify for government insurance to receive an advanceable tax credit that may be used to purchase insurance on the individual exchange. This credit cannot be used to purchase any plan that covers elective abortion and cannot be used to subsidize elective abortion. The current House language is consistent with the vast majority of Americans, including pro-choice Americans, who believe taxpayer dollars should not fund abortions.²

This bill also redirects Federal Medicaid dollars from Planned Parenthood to Federally Qualified Health Centers for one year. It is an unfounded accusation that, without federal Medicaid reimbursement, Planned Parenthood will shut down or women will somehow not have access to care. From 2009-2013, cancer screenings at Planned Parenthood declined by nearly 50%,³ contraceptive services are down 20% since 2010,⁴ and total services are down 14% since 2010.⁵

No Planned Parenthood clinic is authorized to perform mammograms, contrary to the statements of Minority Leader Schumer (D-New York) and Planned Parenthood CEO Cecile Richards.⁶

¹ https://lozierinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/NATIONAL_PAGE1_cli-adf_pp_map_us_sept.jpg

² http://www.kofc.org/en/news/polls/poll_conscience-protection-abortion.html

³ <https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Planned-Parenthood-Chairman-Memo.pdf>

⁴ https://www.sba-list.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/SBAList_Fact_Sheet_PP_2014_2015_AnnualReport.pdf

⁵ https://www.sba-list.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/SBAList_Fact_Sheet_PP_2014_2015_AnnualReport.pdf

⁶ <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/cfdocs/cfMQSA/mqsa.cfm>

Furthermore, Planned Parenthood is not a primary provider of prenatal care. In fact, when Live Action contacted 97 Planned Parenthood clinics inquiring about prenatal care, only five clinics confirmed they offered those services.⁷ Women are going elsewhere, and federal funding should follow.

Fifty-one known audits of Planned Parenthood and their affiliates' billing procedures in several states have shown almost \$8.5 million in fraudulent Medicaid overpayments.⁸ These federal audits have detailed Planned Parenthood's misuse of Medicaid reimbursement for pre-abortion examinations, abortion counseling visits, and other services performed in conjunction with abortion.⁹ Planned Parenthood is wholly unfit for federal dollars.

For years, promises have been made, and the time has come to deliver. We urge you to vote in favor of the American Health Care Act.

Sincerely,

Penny Nance
CEO and President
Concerned Women for America LAC

⁷ <http://www.liveaction.org/defund-debate-hits-live-action-exposes-planned-parenthoods-prenatal-care-deception/>

⁸ <https://lozierinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/plannedparenthood-profit-no-matter-what.pdf>

⁹ <https://lozierinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/plannedparenthood-profit-no-matter-what.pdf>