



Planned Parenthood®
of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri

WE'RE HERE.™

"Planned Parenthood is under siege"

-Gail Collins, NY Times

March 7, 2011

<Address Block>

Dear <name>,

You have probably heard our name a lot in the media lately, and I felt you should hear directly from me on what has been happening in Washington, D.C. and how it could affect us and the millions of women we serve.

A few weeks ago, Planned Parenthood experienced the worst attack in its 95 year history. Anti-choice members of congress, working with extremist groups, successfully passed legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives to deny Planned Parenthood any and all Federal funds including Medicaid and successfully voted to 'zero out' the entire Federal family planning program, Title X (ten). If this legislation passes the Senate, millions of American women will lose access to family planning services through Planned Parenthood and other Title X community providers.

Although the outcome of the House vote was not a surprise, it is radically out of step with mainstream American values. Many Republicans won House seats last fall by campaigning on the promise of jobs and fixing the economy. Instead, they are stripping funding from programs that millions of Americans rely on for basic care and services. After the anti-choice majority took control of the House, we didn't anticipate how quickly the House would target Planned Parenthood, even before job creation or the economy!

They are quite simply pushing an ideological agenda under the illusion of economic progress – cutting off millions of women from what is often their only source of health care – all to score political points with the most radical facet of the anti-choice movement.

This isn't how politics serves the people – this isn't what Americans need.

Millions – maybe someone you know – will lose access to care if this legislation is allowed to pass the Senate. We need your help now to keep providing the services and care which so many in our community rely.

The fact is, every penny of Title X funding is spent on prevention services; **no** funds can be used for abortion. And every provider, like Planned Parenthood, is inspected and audited annually to verify compliance.

The services that the House voted to de-fund and remove from low-income Americans included:

- Breast exams and instruction on self-examination
- Annual gynecological, well-woman examinations and basic lab tests
- Pap tests for early detection of cervical cancer or precancerous conditions
- Contraceptive counseling and medication
- General health screenings for high blood pressure, diabetes and anemia
- Testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections
- HIV testing and risk reduction counseling
- Pregnancy Testing



Planned Parenthood®
of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri

WE'RE HERE.™

We didn't realize that breast exams or blood pressure screenings were controversial, did you?

Here is the real economic value of Title X: <For every \$1 we invest in family planning services, we save taxpayers in Illinois more than \$4 and more than \$6 in Missouri.> Title X and Planned Parenthood are the best investments we can make in improving the lives and health of women of reproductive age in America. And Title X, largely because of Planned Parenthood's commitment, has been one of the most successful federal programs in American history. If allowed to pass the Senate, these "cuts" would **cost** taxpayers more money.

Clearly, the actions in the House are not about keeping women healthy, reducing spending, reducing abortion, or even the deficit, and they're surely not about job creation.

Ninety-five percent of Planned Parenthood's services are preventative. The Guttmacher Institute reports that since Title X began in 1970, the program and its providers, including Planned Parenthood, have prevented 20 million unintended pregnancies and nine million abortions. Title X funding has provided an estimated 54.4 million breast exams and 57.3 million Pap tests, which helped identify more than 55,000 cases of cancer.

Title X and Planned Parenthood save lives.

As our nation's largest and most trusted provider of reproductive health care, Planned Parenthood is being singled out and attacked because we trust women and believe in the integrity of their choices. We are being singled out because Planned Parenthoods provide safe, legal abortion care – services entirely separate from Title X and Medicaid. We have once again been targeted because we believe in reproductive justice for everyone.

There is simply too much at stake to stay silent.

This is the time for us to stand up. We have to stand up for everyone whose life, family, and future has been touched by Planned Parenthood – one out of every five women in America has been a Planned Parenthood patient! Someone you know relies on us for information and care. They need us to be here for them, today and everyday.

Please, call **McCaskill and Blunt in Missouri** or **Durbin and Kirk in Illinois** and let them know you support Planned Parenthood and oppose the effort to de-fund Planned Parenthood and Title X. The vote in the Senate is imminent. We must win this fight. And we can with your help!

Now is the time to stand with and support Planned Parenthood. I hope you will make a generous contribution today in support of our work and services. We need your financial help now! Thank you for your unwavering support, now and always.

Sincerely,

Paula M. Gianino
President & CEO

P.S. You can also support us online at www.plannedparenthood.com/supportpp

P.S.S. Call Senator McCaskill at 202-224-6154 and Senator Blunt at 202-224-5721

Call Senator Durbin at 202-224-2152 and Senator Kirk at 202-224-2854



Planned Parenthood®
of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri

WE'RE HERE.™

<address block>

Enclosed is my gift of ☐ \$<a> ☐ \$ ☐ \$<c> ☐ \$Other _____

- ☐ My company will match my charitable contribution
- ☐ I would like information about including Planned Parenthood in my estate plans
- ☐ Check enclosed (Payable to Planned Parenthood)
- ☐ Please contact me about making a gift of stock
- ☐ I'm interested in hosting a house party
- ☐ Charge my gift to MasterCard, Visa or Discover below

Account Number

Exp Date and Security Code

Name as it appears on card

Phone number

You will be recognized in our annual report as <preferred name>. If you would like to be listed differently, please indicate that here:

Recognition Name:

Please let us know if your contact information has changed:

Name

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____



stlouis.bbb.org