



# ACT NOW! Title X Comment Period Closes Soon!

President Trump's new proposed "Protect Life Rule" would draw a clear distinction between abortion clinics and Title X dollars. As with any federal regulation, there is an open comment period where the public has the opportunity to express their views. The comment period ends July 31, 2018 and it's important that we express our strong support for this life-saving rule!

As you know, the Title X program is a voluntary grant program that was created to educate and provide family planning services. Even though the law says that abortion is not family planning, abortion giants like Planned Parenthood have used this Title X grant program as their own entitled slush fund. Planned Parenthood currently receives over one and one half MILLION dollars every single day from the American taxpayer.

### Background

This proposed *Protect Life Rule* is similar to the "Reagan Rules" that the Supreme Court upheld in 1991 in *Rust v. Sullivan*. This new regulation would require physical and financial separation between Title X recipients and abortion providers. Under the HHS proposed regulations, abortion centers would not be able to serve as family planning centers, and recipients could not refer for elective abortion. Those receiving federal Title X grants must also comply with state and local abuse reporting requirements. Additionally, this rule would repeal the Clinton-era regulations that require abortion counseling and instead makes this optional. The proposed *Protect Life Rule* does not cut one dollar of funding for family planning. It ensures that federal funding goes to health facilities (such as the plentiful Federally Qualified Health Centers) that do not perform or promote abortion as a type of family planning.

Send a Message to Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar

Supporting the Protect Life Rule

#### https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=HHS-OS-2018-0008

## Use these key points:

- Existing Title X regulations have blurred the line between abortion and family planning. The proposed Protect Life rule simply makes clear that abortion is not family planning. The rule would direct that abortion facilities could not be in the same location as where family planning services are delivered. The rule also states that Title X grantees may not refer for elective abortion.
- The proposed rule does not cut one dime of funding for family planning. Instead it merely ensures that federal funding goes to health facilities that do not perform or promote abortion as family planning.
- Title X funds would be directed to health facilities willing to comply with the restored regulations. (Of note, nationwide, of the roughly 4,000 Title X service locations, less than 443 are Planned Parenthood clinics).
- There is widespread availability of facilities that do not provide abortion onsite. Clinics that receive Title X funds (hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Centers, state public health departments, and others) already provide care to well over half the patients served by Title X. Since it appears that few such grantees are co-located with abortion clinics, they should have little difficulty complying with the new regulations.
- The proposed regulations will not "gag doctors" or "interfere with the doctor/patient relationship." This argument is intended to divert attention from the real issue-- the routine referral for elective abortion by federally funded agents.

#### **ACT NOW!**

Don't miss the glorious opportunity to support this life-saving policy!

Thank you, President Trump, for proposing the Protect Life Rule!

# Your Friends at Maine Right to Life Committee



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