

## Defund Planned Parenthood and the Abortion Industry through Reconciliation

Dear Members of the United States Senate,

Students for Life Action (SFLAction), on behalf of more than 1,500 student groups and more than 225,000 trained activists operating in all 50 states, calls on Congress to steward the process of reconciliation to reverse an epic waste of federal funds that has life and death consequences. We call on Members of the U.S. Senate to keep the strong, base-text language in the Big, Beautiful Bill, which ejects Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry from receiving our nation's federal healthcare funding for 10 years, as a non-negotiable requirement. SFLAction will be scoring the vote in the Senate, and we note our Pro-Life Generation Report Card includes sponsorship and co-sponsorship of bills and measures, to award both votes and vision.

With President Trump in the White House and the GOP in control of both the U.S. House and U.S. Senate, our nation's leadership has the unique opportunity to defund much of *Planned Parenthood* and the abortion industry, redirecting scarce resources from disreputable and inadequate abortion vendors to real, full-service medical care providers that will prioritize the true health of the mother and her child.

For the *Pro-Life Generation*, defunding *Planned Parenthood* and all abortion vendors through reconciliation and all tools available continues to be our top priority for the GOP. This may be the only chance we have in Congress this year to save preborn children's lives.

We ask Republicans in Congress to be just as committed to protecting Life and taxpayer resources as Sen. Chuck Schumer and former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi were to forcing pro-abortion votes and spending. The Democrats' rank and file did not compromise on abortion, and billions have been spent on funding companies that kill our children. The GOP caucus should not compromise in defense of LIFE.

Pregnancy is not a disease cured by abortion. Families receive better, full-service care through Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and pregnancy resource centers that offer general medical care to all, regardless of ability to pay. FQHCs have nearly 19,700 locations nationwide, compared to fewer than 600 *Planned Parenthood* facilities. Unlike *Planned Parenthood*, FQHCs provide a broader range of healthcare services -- beyond abortions and birth control -- offering comprehensive treatment options without the sales pitch for abortion from *Planned Parenthood*.

Abortion is federal because we pay for it and support those who profit from it, whether we like it or not. In *Planned Parenthood's* recent annual report, we learned that they received a 13% pay raise from taxpayers, now raking in more than \$792.2 million annually from our government, while most Americans were lucky to get a 4% increase. A prejudice in favor of abortion lurks in mandates and pollutes policy throughout agencies such as the Health & Human Services (HHS), the Food & Drug Administration (FDA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), to name only a few.

However, as our Students for Life's *Demetree Institute for Pro-Life Advancement YouGov*, *Survey USA* poll reported earlier this year, <u>less than half of registered youth voters</u> supported *Planned Parenthood* receiving such a fat payday.

In addition, the federal government has probable cause to not only defund *Planned Parenthood* but also investigate and debar them from all programs. Even *The New York Times* reported that the working conditions and patient care were unhealthy and unsafe. Accusations and evidence of *Planned Parenthood* issues include reports of:

- · Illegal trafficking of baby body parts
- · Medicare/Medicaid fraud
- · Failing to follow health & safety standards
- · Failure to report sex crimes
- · Racist work environment

It has been a cruel and wasteful abuse of power to insist that ending life deserves equal billing as life-saving care. And to those in the GOP wondering about the political cost for such change, I ask, why are you funding your political adversaries?

When election time comes, *Planned Parenthood* and its friends will attack the GOP. Pro-life voters stand ready to offer their support to those who defend both mother and child, born and preborn.

In this reconciliation process, the *Pro-Life Generation* asks that *Planned Parenthood* and the abortion industry be cut from federal healthcare programs, using the current base text language that needs to remain in the bill, and for 10 years. We ask you to ensure that every member of American families – born and preborn – receives life-affirming care in the investment of our healthcare dollars, and we also ask your support for the programs that help young families, like the expanded Child Tax Credit.

To work with us or receive additional information, please email our Government Affairs Coordinator at sderetich@studentsforlifeaction.org.

Sincerely,

Kristan Hawkins

President, Students for Life Action

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