[Urging the Department of Health and Human Services to Adopt Title X Rule 937-AA04]

Resolution urging the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt its proposed rule 937-AA04, precluding state and local jurisdictions from withholding Title X Family Planning grants to health care providers, including Planned Parenthood, for reasons unrelated to the provider’s ability to deliver public health and women’s health services.

WHEREAS, The Title X Family Planning program was enacted in 1970 as Title X of the Public Health Service Act; and

WHEREAS, Title X is the only federal grant program dedicated exclusively to providing individuals with comprehensive family planning and related preventative health services; and

WHEREAS, Family planning centers supported by Title X grants provide a broad range of FDA-approved contraceptive methods and related counselling, in addition to breast and cervical cancer screening, pregnancy testing and counseling, screening and treatment for sexually transmitted infections, HIV testing, among many other healthcare services; and

WHEREAS, Title X grants support a network of nearly 4,200 family planning centers nationally which serve nearly 4.5 million clients a year; and

WHEREAS, Title X staff are specially trained to meet the contraceptive needs of individuals with limited English proficiency, teenagers, those confronting substance abuse, homelessness, and domestic violence situations; and

WHEREAS, Federal Title X funds generally are distributed by State and local governments; and

WHEREAS, 85% of patients who use Title X have incomes below $23,500 and nearly one third of those patients are served by Planned Parenthood; and
WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood uses the $70,000,000 it receives each year in Title X grants to subsidize cancer and sexually transmitted infection screenings and contraceptives for people who can’t afford them; and

WHEREAS, Title X does not allow any money to be used for abortions; and

WHEREAS, Ignoring the critical public health services provided to low-income Americans by Planned Parenthood under the Title X program, at least 14 states have taken recent action to cut Title X funds to Planned Parenthood; and

WHEREAS, Republicans in Congress have repeatedly attempted to defund all support of Planned Parenthood under Title X for political reasons rather than for reasons related to ability to provide care; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Health and Human Services has proposed a rule that would prevent states from withholding Title X federal grants from recipients for any reason other than the provider’s “ability to deliver services to program beneficiaries in an effective manner;” and

WHEREAS, The proposed rule would permanently halt politically-backed efforts to defund crucial healthcare service providers including Planned Parenthood; and

WHEREAS, The proposed rule is currently in a 30-day public comment period; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco strongly supports the Department of Health and Human Services proposed rule that would ensure that local and state jurisdictions cannot withhold Title X funds from healthcare providers for reasons unrelated to the ability to deliver quality care; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco directs the Clerk of the Board to submit this resolution as an official comment through the Federal eRulemaking Portal upon final passage.
Resolution urging the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt its proposed rule 937-AA04, precluding state and local jurisdictions from withholding Title X Family Planning grants to health care providers, including Planned Parenthood, for reasons unrelated to the provider's ability to deliver public health and women's health services.

September 20, 2016 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED
Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Peskin, Tang, Wiener and Yee

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 9/20/2016 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without his approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board