



For Life, Marriage, Family and Liberty...

March 23, 2016

Office of Governor Rick Scott
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Scott:

I am writing to let you know our organization and its constituents support HB 1411 Regarding Termination of Pregnancies and urge you to sign this bill into law.

You may or not be aware of an article appearing in the Guardian regarding the availability of alternative providers to abortion clinics who will no longer be eligible for managed care and state contracts. Some of this was discussed during the committee debate in the legislature. I would like to clarify the facts of the issue:

- There are 636 Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) sites and Rural Health Clinics in the state of Florida which are *required by federal law* to provide **either directly or through established arrangements**, health services related to family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, **obstetrics and gynecology**, diagnostic laboratory and radiological services, pharmaceutical services as appropriate, and **defined preventive health services**. See 42 U.S.C. 254b(b)(1)(A).
- Some of the mandated preventative health services include:
 - prenatal and perinatal services;
 - appropriate cancer screening;
 - immunizations against vaccine-preventable diseases;
 - screenings for communicable diseases; and
 - voluntary family planning services.
- While the list of FQHCs cited may include locations that provide some of the other federally mandated services, each of the locations is part of a network of local community health center sites that is required to provide all of the required services, including women's healthcare. Therefore, even though there may be a location on the list (for example, a dentist) that does not individually provide women's health and

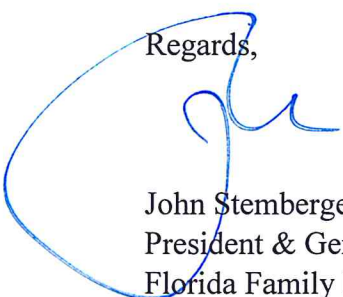
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reproductive services, that office is part of a local federally qualified health center that does provide those services. These FQHCs then provide far more care, not less, than the limited services that Planned Parenthood and similar abortion-centric facilities provide.

- Planned Parenthood does not provide primary care for women and families. These FQHCs do provide those services and far more. Public health is simply better served by encouraging women to seek care at facilities where they can receive health care for the whole person.
- FQHCs are required to provide patient case management services, which allow for the complete care of any patient using their services. This ensures better and more complete care for a woman.
- FQHCs are mandated to provide services that “enable” patients to utilize the FQHC’s medical services, including outreach and transportation services. This makes it more likely that a woman will be able to receive appropriate and comprehensive healthcare.
- FQHCs are in competition with Planned Parenthood who is the primary opponent of this bill. Planned Parenthood affiliates have been found to have engaged in waste, abuse and potential fraud in all 9 states where there are public state and federal audits, and has morally disqualified itself from receiving any taxpayer funding. No Planned Parenthood facility offers the same level of care as FQHCs are required by law to provide.

I strongly urge you to sign this bill into law immediately. This law will help to ensure the safety of Floridian women, offer them better healthcare choices, and establish the proper use of state funding.

Regards,



John Stemberger
President & General Counsel
Florida Family Policy Council

cc: Melissa Sellers, Chief of Staff
Tim Cerio, General Counsel