

Title X National Family Planning Program

Background

Title X of the Population Research and Voluntary Family Planning Program provides significant and critical health and economic benefits for individuals, families and society. Millions of low-income men and women in the United States rely on publicly funded services through Title X, family planning services and other health care services including early detection and treatment of STIs and cervical cancer. Title X is central to the publicly funded family planning effort in the United States and Virginia. These programs help providers deliver affordable and professional contraceptive care and related services to the most vulnerable communities. Conservative Congressional leadership and the Trump administration want to significantly cut back or eliminate the Title X national family planning program. The program was created in 1970 with broad bipartisan support and has a long record of helping low-income and underserved individuals obtain high-quality family planning and related preventive health care.

The Virginia Department of Health and Planned Parenthood of the Blue Ridge are the two Title X grantees in Virginia, supporting 126 Title X-funded health centers across the state. The Title X network served 68,391 women and 5,851 men, for a total of 74,242 residents of Virginia in 2013. Of the 74,242 patients served, 68% had incomes at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL), meaning they earned \$11,490 a year or less. Title X saves Virginia residents' taxpayer dollars and supports critical infrastructure needs that are not reimbursable under Medicaid or commercial insurance, such as staff salaries, individual patient education, community-level outreach, and public education about family planning, women's health, and sexual health issues.

Without Title X, access to high-quality family planning services for low-income Virginia residents would not be possible. By cutting funding for family planning services, it will lead to more unintended pregnancies and higher health care costs in Virginia. Full funding of Title X will allow residents in Virginia to plan their pregnancies, which results in better educational attainment and economic security for them and provides better health outcomes for women, men and their families.

Therefore, be it resolved that,

The 2017 Eighth District Democratic Convention affirms that **without** adequate funding to Title X to pay for these services many men and women in Virginia will have no access to these life-saving and family planning services and sufficient funding should be provided to adequately meet the needs of the residents of Virginia who rely on services funded through Title X.

The Federal government should prohibit discrimination against Title X providers that perform abortions with non-federal funds.