

February 21, 2017

To: Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Co-chair
Rep. Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Members, Human Services Sub-Committee of the Joint Committee on Ways & Means

At 12 health centers around Oregon, Planned Parenthood's licensed medical staff members provide care for over 70,000 patients each year. The patients who choose to receive medical care at our centers include:

- Patients with private health insurance through an employer
- Patients who pay out-of-pocket
- Patients covered by individual insurance, including those who get health insurance through the Exchange
- Patients covered under Title X, America's Family Planning Program, which began under President Nixon
- Patients covered under Oregon's C-Care Program
- Patients covered by the Oregon Health Plan, including thousands who became eligible for OHP through the Medicaid Expansion

We make care available so women, men, and young people can receive high-quality services in a setting where they have the opportunity to fully understand their options, make their own choices, preserve medical privacy guaranteed by law and benefit from a compassionate, non-judgmental staff of professionals. Without regard to their income, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, birth nation or insurance status.

A significant majority of patients who rely on Planned Parenthood for basic health care and preventive services also rely on public health programs: OHP, C-Care, Title X, PEBB, OEBC and Medicare. For those patients, our services help them improve their health now and for years or decades to come.

For their insurers, including the Oregon Health Authority, analysis shows that our services save millions of dollars more than they cost each year beginning immediately. In a single biennium, estimates indicate net savings in the \$50 million range. While specific data are not yet available, it is likely that the most recent enrollees in the Oregon Health Plan experience the

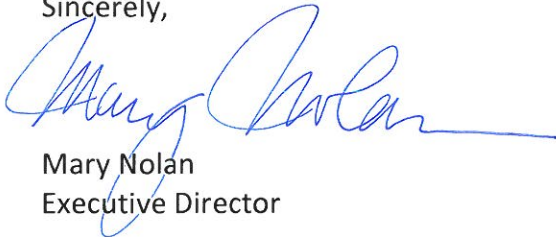
greatest short-term improvement in help as diseases are diagnosed and treated and patients are empowered with preventive care.

For the health care system in Oregon, Planned Parenthood's health centers provide over 100,000 patient encounters each year. This volume of care is a significant load in the various markets around the state. There is simply not adequate capacity, nor licensed physicians or other medical personnel, to fill the gap if Planned Parenthood were not providing this care. There is also not the philanthropic capacity in Oregon to replace services provided to OHP patients and others. Nor should our patients or any other patients be required to depend on the sporadic generosity of a few thousands of donors for services that should be a lynchpin of a just society.

We ask that you find the means – both by prioritizing preventive health services by trusted providers like Planned Parenthood and by raising the revenue from a provider tax and other business- and employment related taxes – to assure basic services like healthcare for everyone who calls Oregon home.

Thanks you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mary Nolan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mary Nolan
Executive Director