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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6300

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<http://help.senate.gov>

March 7, 2019

Dear Colleagues:

As the Trump Administration and Republicans continue their nonstop efforts to undermine women's rights and access to health care, I'm circulating the attached memo to help raise awareness of the damaging impacts the Administration's new, finalized "gag" rule will have on patients who rely on the Title X family planning program for essential reproductive and related preventive health care.

This memo highlights comments from patients, health care providers, county and city health officials, and religious organizations that show how damaging this rule will be for women, families, and communities nationwide.

Under this rule, health providers at the nearly 4,000 health centers receiving Title X funding would be gagged from informing patients about the full range of reproductive health care options available to them, including safe, legal abortion. In an effort to shut out Planned Parenthood, the rule also imposes new, medically unnecessary requirements on Title X-funded health centers that will make health care less accessible for the four million patients who rely on Title X for basic health care services.

I hope this memo is helpful to you as we continue making clear that politics shouldn't interfere with women's access to health care they need.

Sincerely,



Patty Murray
United States Senator
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions