

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
1011 Longworth House Office Building.
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Minority Leader
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Leader
233 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

July 27, 2015

Dear Senate Majority Leader McConnell, Senate Minority Leader Reid, Speaker Boehner, and House Minority Leader Pelosi,

The undersigned 92 organizations stand with Planned Parenthood Federation of America during this time of vicious political attack. And we stand with the millions who rely on Planned Parenthood for health care. Planned Parenthood has provided compassionate and critical health care to women, men, and young people for over 100 years and is an integral and necessary part of our health care system.

The organization that released heavily edited video did so as part of an extreme and entrenched campaign to end the availability of lawful and safe abortion in this country. This is not the first time that Planned Parenthood has been targeted in an underhanded manner by those who want to take away the right to abortion and the full range of reproductive health services. There have been other heavily edited videos, attempts at both the federal and state levels to take away Planned Parenthood's funding, and attacks targeting organizations that work with Planned Parenthood (such as the recent outrageous decision to delay a bill establishing a commemorative coin that would raise funds for breast cancer research because one of the beneficiaries would have been Susan G. Komen For the Cure, which funds Planned Parenthood to provide breast cancer screening).

Through it all, Planned Parenthood has continued to provide 2.7 million women and men annually with high quality affordable health care. Planned Parenthood provides a wide range of health services, including abortion, birth control, breast and cervical cancer screenings, and STD and HIV screenings. For many uninsured and under-insured people, Planned Parenthood is the only source they have for these services.

The organizations signing this letter work closely with Planned Parenthood and know of its employees' dedication to assisting their patients and advocating for women throughout the country. Many of us work on behalf of those who rely on Planned Parenthood's compassionate,

high quality care and know how important it is that it continues to be available to those who need it.

Planned Parenthood clinics that participate in fetal donation programs assist those who choose to donate fetal tissue for research – research that has led to important advances in health care, such as vaccines for rubella, and has the potential to lead to breakthroughs in fighting Parkinson’s Disease, Alzheimer’s, and heart disease. Planned Parenthood and other providers are an important source of tissue for this potentially life-saving research. We should honor and respect women and families who make the decision to donate tissue for scientific and medical research, not demean them and the providers who carry out their wishes.

We support Planned Parenthood and ask that you see these politically-motivated attacks for what they are – an attempt to manipulate public opinion, to vilify trusted health care providers, and to advance efforts to take away women’s access to abortion and other important health services.

Sincerely,

A Fund, Inc. (Kentucky)
Abortion Care Network
Access Matters
Access Reproductive Care-Southeast
ACCESS Women's Health Justice (California)
Advocates for Youth
Alabama Reproductive Rights Advocates
American Association of University Women (AAUW)
American Civil Liberties Union
American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
American Medical Student Association
American Public Health Association
Americans United for Separation of Church and State
Association of Reproductive Health Professionals
Atlanta Pro Choice Action Committee
Backline
Black Women’s Health Imperative
California Women's Law Center
Catholics for Choice
Center for Reproductive Rights
Center on Reproductive Rights and Justice at UC Berkeley School of Law signs
Civil Liberties and Public Policy
CHOICES. Memphis Center for Reproductive Health
Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR)
Emergency Medical Assistance, Inc. (Florida)
Feminist Majority
Freedom From Religion Foundation, Inc.
Healthy and Free Tennessee
Innovation Ohio

Institute for Science and Human Values, Inc.
Ibis Reproductive Health
Iowa Abortion Access Fund
Ipas
Jane's Due Process, Inc.
Jane Fund of Central Massachusetts
Jewish Women International
Kentucky Health Justice Network
Legal Voice
Lilith Fund (Texas)
Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center
Maine Family Planning
Maine Women's Lobby
Maryland Women's Coalition for Health Care Reform
Medical Students for Choice
Metropolitan Community Church
Montana Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
NARAL Pro-Choice America
National Abortion Federation
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum
National Center for Lesbian Rights
National Council of Jewish Women
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
National Health Law Program
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health
National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund
National Network of Abortion Funds
National Organization for Women
National Partnership for Women & Families
National Women's Health Network
National Women's Law Center
Network for Reproductive Options (Oregon)
New Jersey Abortion Access Fund
New York Abortion Access Fund
Northwest Health Law Advocates
Options Fund (Wisconsin)
Oregon Foundation for Reproductive Health
People For the American Way
Physicians for Reproductive Health
Population Connection Action Fund
Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice
Religious Institute
Reproductive Health Technologies Project
Secular Coalition for America
Service Employees International Union
Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S. (SIECUS)

Society of Family Planning
South Carolina Coalition for Healthy Families
Southwest Women's Law Center
Texas Equal Access Fund
The Freedom Fund (Colorado)
The National Crittenton Foundation
UltraViolet
Unitarian Universalist Association
URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity
Vermont Access to Reproductive Freedom Fund
Wisconsin Alliance for Women's Health
Women for Women (Wyoming)
Women's Health & Education Fund of Rhode Island
Women's Law Project
Women's Medical Fund, Inc. (Wisconsin)
Women's Reproductive Rights Assistance Project (California)
Women's Media Center