



July 26, 2016

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
House Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
House Appropriations Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Senate Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education
Senate Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen Cole and Blunt and Ranking Members DeLauro and Murray:

On behalf of the 124,900 physicians and students who are members of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) I strongly urge you provide at least level-funding of \$286.5 million for the Family Planning Program authorized by Title X of the *Public Health Service Act* in the final spending bill for fiscal year 2017. In addition, I urge you to oppose any effort to diminish funding and access to preventive and reproductive health services and urge you to strike any provision that would prohibit funds from being used for Title X family planning activities.

The Title X Family Planning Program, administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration, is the only federal grant program dedicated to providing women and men with comprehensive family planning and related preventive health services. The AAFP strongly recommends adequate funding to support Title X clinics which offer necessary screening for sexually transmissible infections (STI), cancer screenings, HIV testing, and contraceptive care.

The AAFP's 2015 Congress of Delegates approved a resolution opposing cuts to Title X preventive and reproductive health services and supporting continued Medicaid and Title X funding eligibility for all providers or clinics that otherwise meet usual standards for eligibility. As you work finalize the legislation to fund the federal government for fiscal year 2017,

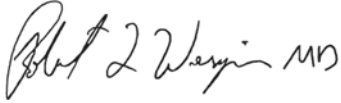
www.aafp.org

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| President Wanda Filer, MD York, PA | President-elect John Meigs, Jr., MD Brent, AL | Board Chair Robert L. Wergin, MD Milford, NE | Directors Yushu "Jack" Chou, MD, <i>Baldwin Park, CA</i> Robert A. Lee, MD, <i>Johnston, IA</i> Michael Munger, MD, <i>Overland Park, KS</i> Mott Blair, IV, MD, <i>Wallace, NC</i> John Cullen, MD, <i>Valdez, AK</i> Lynne Lillie, MD, <i>Woodbury, MN</i> | John Bender, MD, <i>Fort Collins, CO</i> Gary LeRoy, MD, <i>Dayton, OH</i> Carl Olden, MD, <i>Yakima, WA</i> Marie-Elizabeth Ramas, MD, (New Physician Member), <i>Mount Shasta, CA</i> Richard Bruno, MD, (Resident Member), <i>Baltimore, MD</i> Tiffany Ho (Student Member), <i>Baltimore, MD</i> |
| Speaker Javette C. Orgain, MD Chicago, IL | Vice Speaker Alan Schwartzstein, MD Oregon, WI | Executive Vice President Douglas E. Henley, MD Leawood, KS | | |

Page 2 of 2
July 26, 2016

please feel free to contact Teresa Baker, Senior Government Relations Representative, at tbaker@aafp.org or (202) 232-9033 for additional information on AAFP policies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert L. Wergin MD". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

Robert L. Wergin, MD, FAAFP
Board Chair