

Support and Fund Planned Parenthood

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3 **WHEREAS** Planned Parenthood funding has been under constant attack at both the
4 federal and state level and government restrictions have left many people without
5 affordable or accessible birth control;

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7 **WHEREAS** Planned Parenthood provides the ONLY health care to low-income people
8 in many areas;

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10 **WHEREAS** these defunding attacks threaten the Title X program, which was founded
11 in 1970. It is the only federal grant program dedicated solely to providing individuals
12 with comprehensive family planning and preventive health services, particularly to
13 low-income families. Preventative health services include breast and cervical cancer
14 screenings, HIV prevention education, pregnancy diagnosis and counseling;

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16 **WHEREAS** the consequences of defunding Planned Parenthood are clearly devastating.
17 Cutting off millions of people from care they have no other way to afford places them at
18 risk of sickness and death. More women will have unintended pregnancies. More
19 women will develop cancer that will be diagnosed too late for them to receive life-
20 saving treatment. More people will suffer from sexually transmitted diseases which can
21 cause health problems for them and their babies;

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23 **WHEREAS** an individual's health shouldn't have to suffer simply because of poverty;

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25 **WHEREAS** Planned Parenthood makes up 10 percent of publicly supported family
26 planning centers, according to the Guttmacher Institute, but they serve 36 percent of
27 clients who seek out such services; and

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29 **WHEREAS** the nation — through the work of Planned Parenthood and others — has
30 reduced the percentage of unintended pregnancies, and now pregnancies among
31 teenagers are at a 40-year low;

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33 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Party contact
34 our state and congressional representatives to support full funding to Planned
35 Parenthood and oppose all funding cuts to this valuable health care provider.
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37 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic
38 Party advocate for support of Planned Parenthood by writing letters to the editor,
39 educating their friends about the benefits provided to our society by Planned
40 Parenthood, and donating money to Planned Parenthood.

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43 Submitted by the Clark County Democrats.

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45 The Platform Committee recommended that this resolution be passed at their June 17,
46 2016 meeting.

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48 The 2016 Washington State Democratic Convention passed this resolution on June 18,
49 2016.

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