

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 28, 2026

Robert F. Kennedy Jr.  
Secretary of Health and Human Services  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Mr. Secretary,

We write to urge your administration to swiftly propose and finalize the "Compliance with Statutory Program Integrity Requirements" rule, commonly known as the "Protect Life Rule," to restore crucial safeguards to the Title X Family Planning Program. Created by Congress in 1970, Title X of the Public Health Service Act clearly intended to prohibit federal funds from being spent in programs where abortion is a method of family planning.<sup>1</sup> We ask you to correct the misguided actions of the previous administration and reimplement the Protect Life Rule to ensure taxpayer dollars are not used to subsidize the abortion industry.

During President Trump's first administration, the Protect Life Rule successfully fulfilled the spirit and letter of this decades-old law by firmly separating abortion from family planning. The rule appropriately eliminated the egregious abortion referral mandate, which protected the conscience rights of health care providers and increased the potential for diversity among program applicants. Furthermore, it stipulated that Title X projects had to be organized with complete physical and financial separation between a grantee's Title X activities and abortion activities. This much-needed reform ended the practice of "co-location," which had made federal funds vulnerable to misuse and implied that abortion was a method of family planning. The Protect Life Rule also implemented a stronger focus on protecting women and children from being victimized by abuse, rape, incest, and trafficking by bolstering oversight of grantee compliance with state abuse reporting requirements.

Unfortunately, the Biden administration's decision to suspend and revise the Protect Life Rule compromised the integrity of the Title X program. By mandating abortion referrals, the Biden rule effectively required grantees to encourage or promote abortion in order to receive funding, operating exactly opposite to the requirements of the Title X statute. This mandate also directly violated the Weldon Amendment, which makes it illegal for the federal government to discriminate against health care entities that do not refer for abortion. Furthermore, by permitting the "co-location" of abortion clinics and Title X clinics in the same facility, the revised rule provided funding to clinics that perform abortions, allowing them to reallocate financial resources to advance their abortion

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<sup>1</sup> 42 U.S. Code § 300a-6

agenda at the taxpayer's expense. The Biden administration even punished the pro-life states of Oklahoma and Tennessee by stripping their lifesaving Title X funding. Even now, Oklahoma is still waiting for the approximately \$9 million Title X funds that were stripped in 2023 and 2024.

History confirms that without the Protect Life Rule, Title X serves as a funding stream for the abortion industry. For example, between 2013 and 2015, Title X funds made up over \$170 million of Planned Parenthood's expenditures.<sup>2</sup> Restoring these critical reforms is not without precedent; regulations requiring the physical separation of abortion activities and prohibiting abortion referrals were promulgated under President Ronald Reagan in 1988 and upheld by the Supreme Court in 1991.<sup>3</sup>

It is time to restore the bright line of separation between family planning and abortion that is consistent with the plain text of the statute and Congressional intent. We urge you to move swiftly to issue regulations for the Title X program that will protect federal taxpayer funds from being spent for Title X programs where abortion is a method of family planning.

Sincerely



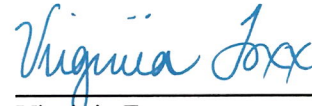
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Ron Estes  
Member of Congress



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Cindy Hyde-Smith  
United States Senator



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Virginia Foxx  
Member of Congress



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John Thune  
United States Senator



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Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House

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<sup>2</sup> "Health Care Funding: Federal Obligations to and Expenditures by Selected Organizations Involved in Health-Related Activities, Fiscal Years 2013–2015." Government Accountability Office. March 6, 2018. <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-18-204r.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Rust v. Sullivan, 500 U.S. 173 (1991)



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John Barrasso, M.D.  
United States Senator



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Steve Scalise  
House Majority Leader



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Tom Emmer  
House Majority Whip



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Lisa C. McClain  
Republican Conference  
Chairwoman



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Christopher H. Smith  
Member of Congress



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Sheri Biggs  
Member of Congress



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Marlin A. Stutzman  
Member of Congress



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Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
United States Senator  
Chairman, Senate Committee  
on Health, Education,  
Labor, and Pensions



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Member of Congress



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James Lankford  
United States Senator



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Diana Harshbarger  
Member of Congress



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Pete Sessions  
Member of Congress



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Tracey Mann  
Member of Congress



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Jim Banks  
U.S. Senator



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Mike Bost  
Member of Congress



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Steve Daines  
United States Senator



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David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



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Rick Scott  
United States Senator



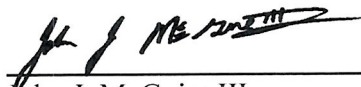
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Ben Cline  
Member of Congress



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Ted Budd  
United States Senator



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John J. McGuire III  
Member of Congress



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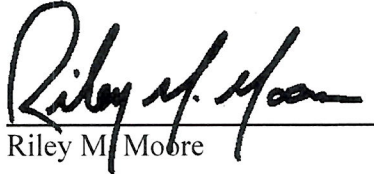
Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress



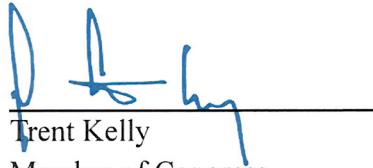
Dusty Johnson  
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers  
Member of Congress



Riley M. Moore  
Member of Congress



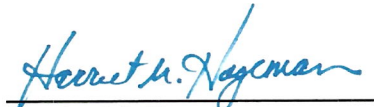
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Roger Marshall, M.D.  
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United States Senator

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Derek Schmidt  
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Tommy Tuberville  
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Ralph Norman  
Member of Congress

*Brad Finstad*

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Brad Finstad  
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*Mark B. Messmer*

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Mark B. Messmer  
Member of Congress

*Stephanie L. Bice*

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Stephanie Bice  
Member of Congress



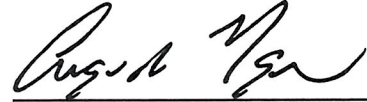
Pete Ricketts  
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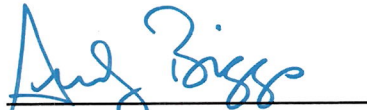
Ronny L. Jackson  
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C. Scott Franklin  
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Andy Biggs  
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James E. Risch  
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Kevin Cramer  
United States Senator



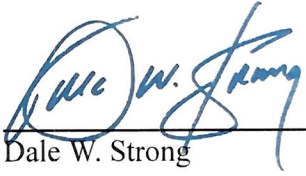
Lauren Boebert  
Member of Congress



Jimmy Patronis  
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Tom Barrett  
Member of Congress




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Dale W. Strong  
Member of Congress



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Ashley Hinson  
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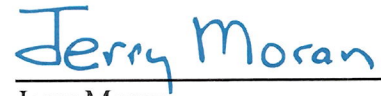
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Gus M. Bilirakis  
Member of Congress




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Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress




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Jerry Moran  
United States Senator



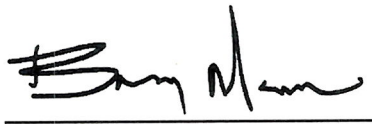
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Jeff Crank  
Member of Congress




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Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



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Barry Moore  
Member of Congress




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Gary J. Palmer  
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Andy Ogles  
Member of Congress



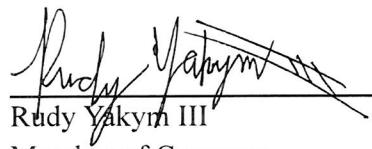
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Glenn "GT" Thompson  
Member of Congress



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Deb Fischer  
United States Senator



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Rudy Yakym III  
Member of Congress



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Alan Stuart Armstrong  
United States Senator



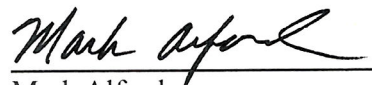
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Pete Stauber  
Member of Congress



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Russ Fulcher  
Member of Congress



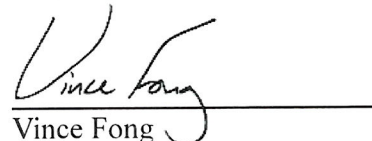
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Mark Alford  
Member of Congress



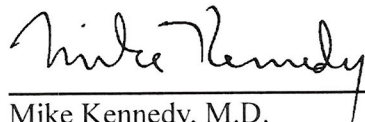
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Mike Crapo  
United States Senator



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Vince Fong  
Member of Congress



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Mike Kennedy, M.D.  
Member of Congress



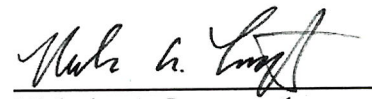
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Brian Babin, D.D.S.  
Member of Congress




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Troy Downing  
Member of Congress




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Nicholas A. Langworthy  
Member of Congress


  
Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress


  
Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress

  
Randy K. Weber, Sr.  
Member of Congress


  
Elijah Crane  
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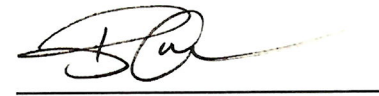
  
Rich McCormick, MD, MBA  
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Mike Haridopolos  
Member of Congress

  
Dan Sullivan  
United States Senator

  
Frank D. Lucas  
Member of Congress

  
Burgess Owens  
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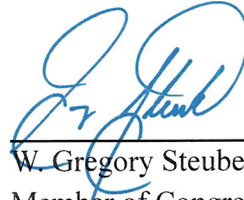
  
Barry Loudermilk  
Member of Congress

  
Nathaniel Moran  
Member of Congress



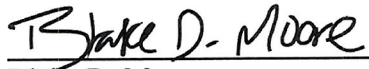
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Cory Mills  
Member of Congress



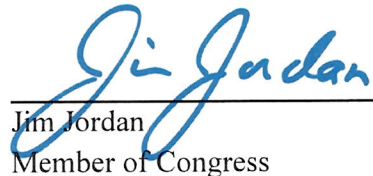
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W. Gregory Steube  
Member of Congress



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Blake D. Moore  
Member of Congress



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Jim Jordan  
Member of Congress



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Neal P. Dunn, M.D.  
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Randy Feenstra  
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United States Senator



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Keith Self  
Member of Congress



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Eric Burlison  
Member of Congress



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Jeff Hurd  
Member of Congress




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Morgan Luttrell  
Member of Congress



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Joni K. Ernst  
United States Senator



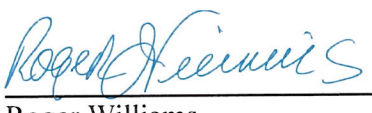
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Guy Reschenthaler  
Member of Congress



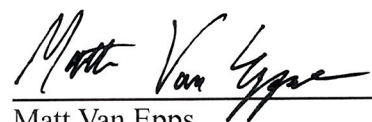
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Mario Diaz-Balart  
Member of Congress



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Roger Williams  
Member of Congress



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Matt Van Epps  
Member of Congress



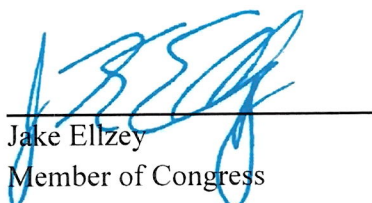
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Roger F. Wicker  
United States Senator




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Craig A. Goldman  
Member of Congress



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Jake Ellzey  
Member of Congress



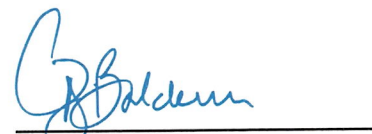
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Kevin Hern  
Member of Congress



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John Hoeven  
United States Senator



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Troy Balderson  
Member of Congress



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Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress



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Mike Flood  
Member of Congress



Jason Smith  
Member of Congress



John Rose  
Member of Congress



Michael A. Rulli  
Member of Congress




Austin Scott  
Member of Congress



Mike Collins  
Member of Congress



Eric Schmitt  
United States Senator



Brian Jack  
Member of Congress



John Moolenaar  
Member of Congress



Chip Roy  
Member of Congress



H. Morgan Griffith  
Member of Congress



Marsha Blackburn  
United States Senator



John Boozman  
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Katie Britt  
United States Senator



Tom Cotton  
United States Senator



John Cornyn  
United States Senator



Ted Cruz  
United States Senator



Lindsey Graham  
United States Senator



Josh Hawley  
United States Senator



Ron Johnson  
United States Senator



Mike Lee  
United States Senator



Cynthia Lummis  
United States Senator



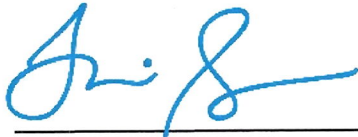
Ashley Moody  
United States Senator



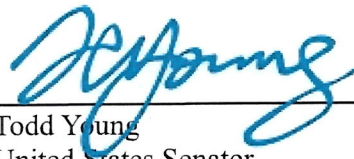
Rand Paul  
United States Senator



Mike Rounds  
United States Senator



Tim Scott  
United States Senator



Todd Young  
United States Senator