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Bill No. HB2

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Regarding House Bill 2 revoking 1970 Title X Public Health Service Act funding

Attn: Representatives Ryan Zinke, Jon Sonju, Bruce Tutvedt and Verdell Jackson

Gentlemen:

I am writing to express my concern over the passing of House Bill 2 revoking Title X funding for one of the most valuable health care services we can provide the citizens of Montana; affordable health care for all, most especially those who do not have or cannot afford health insurance.

If Title X funding is cut, Montana will see an increase of a myriad of health issues left undiagnosed and untreated, from breast and cervical cancers to HIV. All ages will be affected. The valuable education and early diagnosis for many diseases and issues, confidential treatments/referrals originally initiated by Planned Parenthood and other low income health care sources will be eliminated and the tax payers of the State of Montana will all have the additional budget worries of caring for patients who could have been treated and whose lives could have been saved.

Last year, 27,731 MONTANA CITIZENS were served by Title X clinics. The majority were either poverty level and below or could not get health care for a variety of reasons. That would indicate a definite need for this health care service and with the present economy, those numbers will likely increase.

As a businesswoman and citizen of Montana, I am asking you to reconsider your decision and reestablish this lifesaving service for our citizens.

Respectfully submitted,

Fay Wolf
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