

NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Liz Krueger

Pro-Choice Caucus Members Urge Governor To Protect Planned Parenthood From Trump Cuts

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Albany – Today, members of the state Bipartisan Pro-Choice Legislative Caucus (BPCLC) released a letter to Governor Kathy Hochul, urging her to commit state funding to fill the funding gap caused by cuts in H.R. 1 that singled out Planned Parenthood health centers across the country. A 14-day judicial restraining order preventing those cuts from going into effect expired earlier this week. <u>You can view</u> the letter by clicking here.

"The Big Ugly Bill that Trump and his acolytes squeaked through Congress will hurt New Yorkers in so many different ways in the short, medium, long, and very long term," said BPCLC Co-Chair **Senator Liz Krueger**. "One of the first impacts we're seeing on the ground is taking away vital reproductive health care access by singling out Planned Parenthood providers for Medicaid cuts. These services are critical to communities in every corner of our state. The Governor has the resources to fill in this funding gap and protect New Yorkers from Trump's extreme ideological attacks, and I urge her to do so swiftly."

"As MAGA Republicans and President Trump target reproductive health resources and providers, New York will have to preserve access to care for women and impacted persons across the state", said **Assembly Member Karines Reyes**, R.N., Co-Chair of the BPCLC. "The 'One Big Beautiful Bill' will only have ugly and dramatic consequences for those committed to public health equity and justice. We need Governor Hochul and legislative leaders to ensure that we can fill some, if not all, of the gaps that will develop, so that a large segment of society will not be left without

care. The way that we resolve this crisis is by standing up for Planned Parenthood clinics and associated agencies, so that they can continue providing sorely needed reproductive health care. We are hopeful that these calls will be heard."

The Congressional reconciliation package, H.R. 1, which President Trump signed into law on July 4th, included a provision singling out Planned Parenthood health centers and preventing them from receiving any federal Medicaid dollars. On July 7th, Planned Parenthood Federation of America sued on behalf of all Planned Parenthood affiliates around the country. A temporary restraining order was put in place that delayed cutting off federal Medicaid funding, but that has now expired.

This Monday, Judge Indira Talwani, of the Federal District Court in Massachusetts, <u>issued a preliminary injunction</u> covering 10 Planned Parenthood affiliates, but not including those in New York State. As a result, Planned Parenthood health centers in New York are now no longer receiving federal Medicaid funding.

Five Planned Parenthood affiliates provide care to over 200,000 New Yorkers each year at 47 health centers operating across the state. Over 60% of these health centers are located in rural or medically underserved areas – providing a critical source of affordable health care where there are not many other options. These patients rely on Planned Parenthood for a wide variety of primary and preventative care including annual exams, cancer screenings, birth control, STI testing and treatment, gender-affirming care, abortion care and more. Over 50% of the patients Planned Parenthood sees rely on Medicaid for coverage.

Without state support, this "defund" means that New York Planned Parenthoods will be unable to continue to provide care to all who need it – a loss that will have serious consequences in communities across the state. Planned Parenthood has assured legislators that they are committed to providing care to Medicaid enrollees for as long as possible, but they will be unable to do so long term without a state commitment to address this critical loss of funding.

In the letter, BPCLC members urge Governor Hochul to help protect access to affordable reproductive and sexual health care in New York by committing the necessary state funding to ensure care remains available at Planned Parenthood health centers throughout the state.