

June 3, 2025

The Honorable Alex Padilla The Honorable Adam Schiff United States Senate 331 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Padilla and Senator Schiff,

The California Primary Care Association is aware of provisions in the House-passed Budget Reconciliation Bill that is currently before the Senate that would prohibit federal funding from being used for services provided by Planned Parenthood. In California, this would mean that Medi-Cal patients would lose an important point of access for family planning services, shifting care to federally qualified health centers that will be <u>unable to meet patient needs</u>. This provision has no purpose other than putting a moratorium on Planned Parenthood as a health care provider for ten years and in fact, according to the <u>Congressional Budget Office</u>, will increase the deficit by \$300 million.

As the state-wide representatives of community clinics and health centers in California, who annually serve over 7.7 million Medi-Cal patients, we believe this action would negatively impact the health of our community.

Planned Parenthood currently operates 115 health centers in California and serves almost a million patients through 1.3 million total visits annually. Eliminating Planned Parenthood from our state's comprehensive network of care would put untenable stress on remaining health centers. We do not have the capacity for such an increase in care and building such capacity would require significant capital investment.

Moreover, the effort to defund Planned Parenthood would eliminate a patient's ability to choose the provider with which they feel most comfortable. Many patients rely on Planned Parenthood because they know that it is a place where they can get high quality care that is confidential and without judgment. Their reputation as a leading provider of sexual and reproductive health care means that they are the provider of choice to almost a million Californians who seek out a variety of services that include wellness exams, birth control, sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing and treatment, cancer screenings, and other preventive care. In 2024 alone, the Planned Parenthood affiliate health centers in CA conducted over 2.5 million STI tests.

Planned Parenthood is a vital component of the health care system in California and for that reason, we are opposed to any provisions in the budget reconciliation bill that will diminish their capacity to provide care in our state.

Sincerely,

Francisco J. Silva, Esq.

President and CEO

California Primary Care Association