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November 14, 2015

Chairman Tim Derickson
Community and Family Advancement Committee
The Ohio House of Representatives
77 S. High St.
Columbus, OH 43215

Chairman Dickerson and members of the committee,

I am asking you to support House Bill 294 which will remove tax-payer funding of Planned Parenthood, a multibillion dollar corporation responsible for the largest number of abortions performed in the United States each year. Planned Parenthood receives over 500 million dollars from taxpayers each year, despite the fact that more than 50% of the American Public believes abortion is morally wrong.

Changes in healthcare legislation providing increased access and payment for preventative medical services, allow women to seek these services from other healthcare organizations. Ohio has 50 community action agencies, 55 free clinics, 125 local health departments, and 200 community health centers that help women.

According to the Guttmacher Institute, over 97% of all abortions are elective procedures and not indicated for incest, rape or health of the mother. Very few mothers are given alternative options for adoption or parenting due to lack of resources and coercive bias. Tax-payer funds normally given to Planned Parenthood could be used to support adoption services and pregnancy help centers that offer life-giving alternatives.

We need to support the dignity of the woman and defend the unborn. Time and again, Planned Parenthood has shown callous disregard for human life and the women they claim to serve. I urge you to support this very important legislation to remove tax-payer funding of Planned Parenthood and support the inalienable right to life.

Sincerely yours,

Michael S. Parker, MD OB/GYN
Secretary, Catholic Medical Association