



**SENATOR CAPRI S. CAFARO**  
32nd Ohio Senate District

**Sponsor Testimony**  
**Senate Bill 101**  
**Senator Capri S. Cafaro**  
**Health and Human Services Committee**  
**October 14, 2015**

**Committees:**

Medicaid  
- Ranking Minority Member  
Transportation, Labor, and Commerce  
- Ranking Minority Member  
Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee  
- Ranking Minority Member  
Higher Education Finance Subcommittee  
- Vice Chair  
Agriculture  
Ways and Means  
Health and Human Services  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Joint Legislative Ethics Committee

Chairwoman Jones, Ranking Member Tavares, and members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, thank you for inviting me here today and giving me the opportunity to offer sponsor testimony on Senate Bill 101.

This legislation focuses on sexual health and contraception education. The bill is designed to reduce Ohio's unintended pregnancy rate and make Ohio a healthier place for women, children and families.

Provisions of the bill include:

- Provides comprehensive reproductive health education including:
  - Issues grants from Ohio Department of Health for programs in communities that teenage birth rates are higher than state average or rates are increasing.
  - Programs may focus on a variety of issues, delaying sexual activity, sex and HIV, interventions for sexually active teenagers, preventive health services, youth development programs, service learning programs or outreach or media programs.
- Ensures that sexual assault victims have access to emergency contraception as well as testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections in all hospital emergency rooms
- Creates the Ohio Teen Pregnancy Prevention Task Force
- Prevents a health insurance company from limiting or excluding coverage for FDA-approved prescription contraception
- Requires a pharmacy to dispense any prescribed drug, device or over-the-counter medication in stock without delay with respect to all customers

I believe it is important that we prioritize the health of all members of our community. It is essential that we do all we can to help educate women on their options and eliminate the obstacles in their way. Women all across the state need to know their options for contraceptives. They also need to be assured that no health insurer or pharmacy will turn them away when they are proactive about their sexual health. This bill would be the first step in assuring all women in Ohio that their health does matter. I would like to thank you for allowing me to testify on behalf of Senate Bill 101. I would be happy to answer any questions you have at this time.

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