

Nicole DeCardenas
Akron, OH

**Testimony to the State of Ohio House Committee on Community and Family Advancement
November 4, 2015**

Chairman Derickson, Vice Chair Ginter, Ranking member Howse, and distinguished members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to testify today on House Bill 294.

Planned Parenthood saved my life. I went to PP for my annual exam along with a breast exam. I am so grateful I did because the nurse found a lump. I received the referral I needed to a specialist I could afford and now I am healthy. I do not know what I would have done without Planned Parenthood. I don't know if I would have lived, let alone been healthy enough to have a child. I now have a beautiful, healthy little girl who is my entire world. I thank Planned Parenthood for the care I received.

Planned Parenthood is a vital public health need. They are affordable and accessible. I was always able to make an appointment quickly, even when I went in for my birth control renewals. Planned Parenthood needs to remain open for all the young women in Ohio to rely on.

Vote no on House Bill 294. Save Planned Parenthood like they saved me.