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Testimony to the State of Ohio Senate Committee on Government Oversight and Reform

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Chairman Coley, Vice-chair Seitz, ranking member Yuko, and distinguished members of the Government Oversight and Reform committee, thank you for allowing me to testify today on Senate Bill 214.

My name is Debbie Rosier and I have been an employee of Planned Parenthood for the past 28 years. I started my career as a Licensed Practical Nurse and am now the Practice Manager of both the Canton and the Youngstown offices.

I can tell you firsthand how much our services are needed. In my 28 year career I have spoken to patients, which thanks to our dedicated Clinicians and staff, have been diagnosed with cervical abnormalities, and breast abnormalities. Explaining the results and answering their questions giving them the referrals that are needed so that they can get the care they need to lead productive lives.

I have witnessed firsthand the devastation that a patient sometimes can feel when she is getting a positive pregnancy test that she was not expecting. Giving that patient non-judgmental support and discussing her options so that she can make an informed decision. Talking with the patients that are in a domestic violent relationship and helping her by making her aware of the organizations that she can contact and letting her know that she is not alone. I have spoken to victims of human trafficking and rape that feel so ashamed they are on the verge of suicide. I have helped them by doing the appropriate testing needed but also by being compassionate, non-judgmental and listening to their needs and again giving the appropriate community referrals so that they may get the psychological help they may need. I have spoken to parents that want to talk with their children about sex and how they can approach the subject. I have spoken to patients that call to get information because their physician did not take the time to answer their questions or educate them. Sometimes these folks call us because they were "afraid to ask their physician because they would look down on them". These patients deserve not only the great medical services that we give them but also the compassion and non-judgmental care that everyone here at Planned Parenthood puts forth each day. Our patients need us and each and every day they thank us for being here by telling us they appreciate the fact that we took time to answer their questions and that we care.

See we are in the business of preventative care and giving factual information so that women and men can take responsibility for their reproductive health. If you take funding away those people that come to our offices because we are a caring organization that offers non-judgmental factual information will have nowhere else to go.

Thank You for your time

Debbie Rosier, LPN
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