



November 15, 2015

Chairman Tim Derickson
Community and Family Advancement Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Derickson and members of the committee:

I'm writing to urge you to support H.B. 294 to end taxpayer-funding of Planned Parenthood, a billion dollar corporation that is responsible for over 327,000 abortions in America each year. Every day, Planned Parenthood receives over 1.4 million taxpayer dollars, what amounts to \$528 million in a year.

The mission of LifeWorks Ohio is to instruct students in middle school about the dignity of human life and the challenges to the right to life in our culture. Among these, the role of the world's largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood, is discussed. The abortion methods used by these types of agencies may result in physical and emotional consequences for both the mother and father of the child, as documented by the Elliott Institute, Life Issues Institute, and Breast Cancer Prevention Institute, among others. Teens are ill-prepared to understand these realities when they avail themselves of abortion services.

In addition, Planned Parenthood is on record for dispensing the abortion drug RU-486 in an off-label manner, not in conformity with FDA regulations. The Population Research Council's article of 10/26/15 "Planned Parenthood Flouts FDA Guidelines for RU-486" examines a lawsuit filed by Planned Parenthood and others to block an Arizona law which would require compliance with FDA regulations:

"As of April 2011, the FDA had received **over 2,000 reports of adverse events** -- including 14 deaths-- associated with RU-486. Eight of the fourteen reported deaths were due to sepsis, all of which resulted from vaginal or buccal administration of misoprostol, methods which have not been approved by the FDA. Other serious complications reported to the FDA included hospitalization (612 cases excluding the 14 cases of death), severe blood loss requiring a blood transfusion (339 cases), ectopic pregnancy (58 cases) and infection (256 cases)."

"Planned Parenthood argued that it should be allowed to administer the abortion drug to mothers at nine weeks gestation, which is two full weeks later than the FDA regimen allows. It, in effect denies the obvious, namely, that the risks of chemical abortion to the mother are much greater at this later stage of pregnancy."

Please vote to protect our young women – and women of all ages – from these possible adverse effects, and support the initiative to defund Planned Parenthood.

Sincerely,
Victoria Follen
Executive Director