

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 1, 2024

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you develop the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies appropriations legislation, we urge the committee to include increased funding for critical sexual and reproductive health programs, including the Title X Family planning program. Specifically, we request \$512 million for the Title X family planning program. Since FY15, this program has been flat funded, pushing access to family planning services out of reach for many.

Title X is the only federal program dedicated to providing family planning services for people with low incomes and has received bipartisan recognition as a critical public resource. Title X funded health centers are lifelines in their communities, providing high-quality family planning and sexual health care, including cancer screenings, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections, contraceptive services and supplies, pregnancy testing, and other essential health care services. In 2022 alone, Title X was able to support care at 4,126 health centers across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. Following the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson* and the ensuing health care crisis, it is more essential than ever to protect and support access to all reproductive and sexual health care, including contraception.

These centers offer care to populations that often face severe structural barriers to accessing quality health care, such as people with low incomes, the uninsured or people with insufficient insurance, people of color, young people, people who live and work in rural areas, and LGBTQ people. Of the more than 2.6 million family planning users served in 2022, 31 percent identified themselves as people of color, and 37 percent identified as Hispanic and/or Latino. Further, 60 percent of Title X users had household incomes at or below the federal poverty guidelines and nearly one-third were uninsured.¹

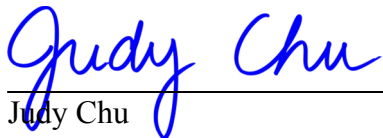
Currently, Title X is flat funded at \$286.5 million for FY24, well below the \$737 million that researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Office of Population Affairs (OPA), and George Washington University determined in 2016 would be needed annually just to provide family planning care to low-income women without insurance.² Further, a 2023 report to the House Appropriations Committee demonstrates that the need has grown

¹ Clochard, A., Killewald, P., Larson, A., Leith, W., Paxton, N., Troxel, J., & Wong, M. (2023, October). Family Planning Annual Report: 2022 National Summary. Washington, DC: Office of Population Affairs, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Department of Health and Human Services.

significantly in recent years, with Health and Human Services (HHS) estimating that the program would now need more than \$1 billion for Title X to meet the needs for all eligible populations. . Unfortunately, these services are in serious jeopardy because of chronic underfunding to the Title X program. Additionally, the Title X network is still recovering from the harm of the Trump administration’s 2019 rule while managing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and current health care workforce and system challenges.

Our request of \$512 million would give the program necessary resources to begin to better meet the true need in our communities. We thank you for your consideration of this request and look forward to working with you throughout the FY25 appropriations process.

Sincerely,



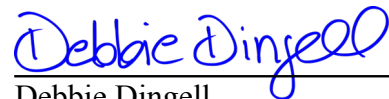
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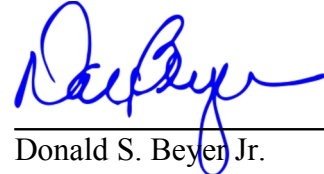
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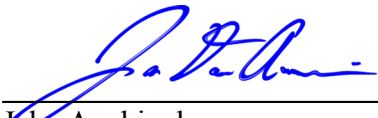
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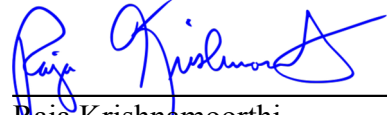
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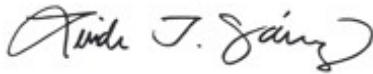
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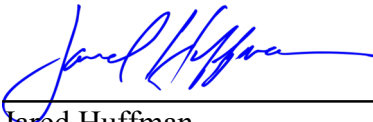
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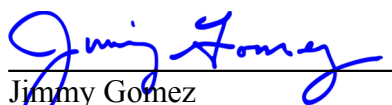
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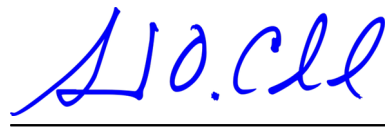



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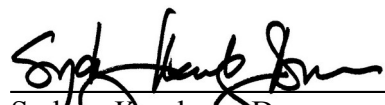

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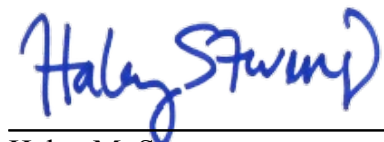
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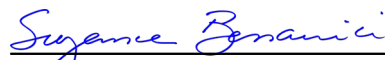
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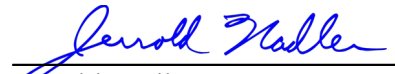
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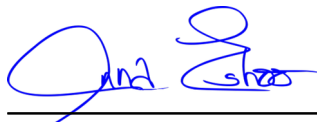
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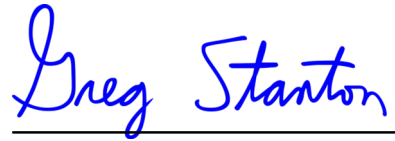
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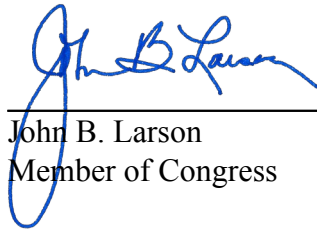
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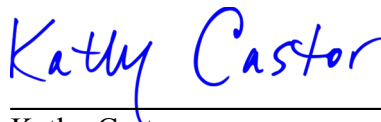
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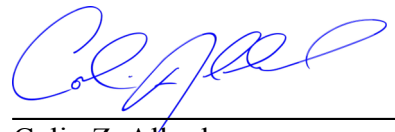
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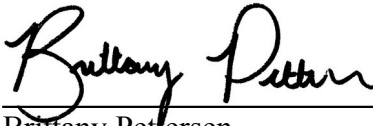
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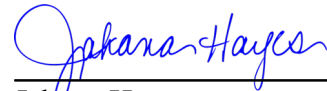
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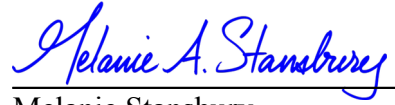
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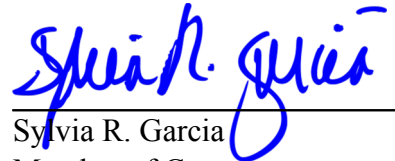
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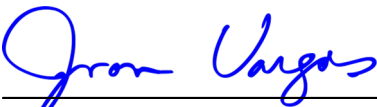
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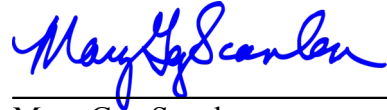
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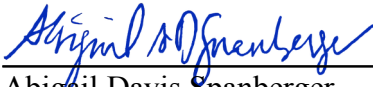
Mary Gay Scanlon
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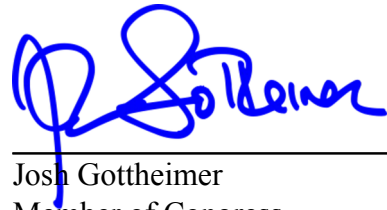
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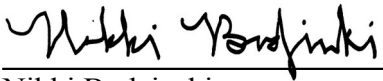
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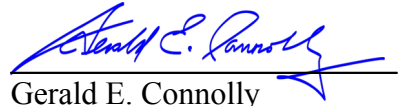
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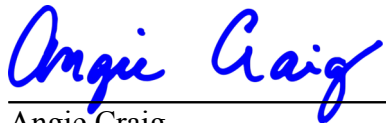
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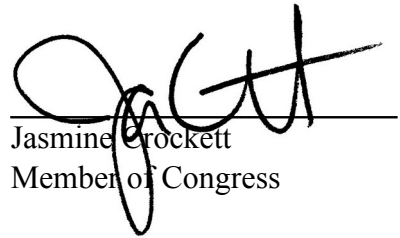
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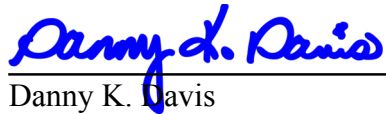
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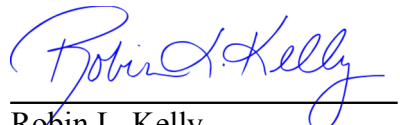
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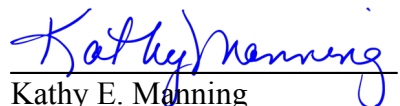
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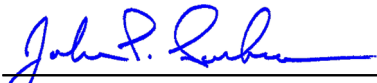
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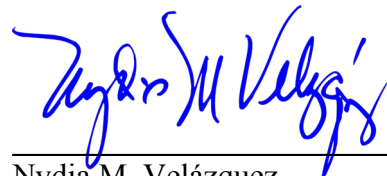
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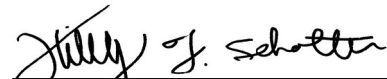
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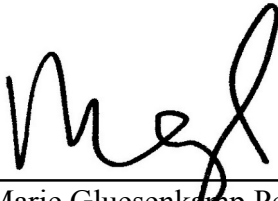
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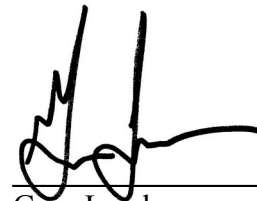
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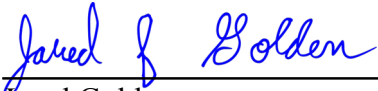
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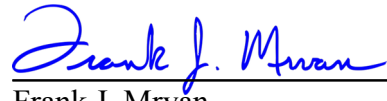
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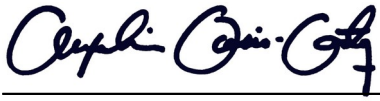
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