

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius  
Secretary  
US Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20201

September 6, 2011

Dear Secretary Sebelius,

I write today to express my concern about the future of Title X family planning funding in New Hampshire.

As you are aware, on June 22, 2011, the New Hampshire Executive Council rejected a contract with Planned Parenthood of Northern New England (PPNNE) to provide Title X family planning services in New Hampshire. As a result of that decision, I am deeply concerned about the access to low-cost reproductive health services.

I understand that New Hampshire has relinquished the portion of the state's Title X Family Planning Services grant that had been intended for its contract with Planned Parenthood of Northern New England. As your agency gives consideration to alternative mechanisms that will provide access to low-cost reproductive health care in New Hampshire, I strongly urge you to consider a direct contract with Planned Parenthood of Northern New England.

For over 30 years, Planned Parenthood of Northern New England has provided essential health care services in New Hampshire under the federal Title X family planning program. The services provided by PPNNE are critical to helping people stay healthy and meet their reproductive needs. Last year, Planned Parenthood of Northern New England served 16,000 men and women through its Title X contract.

During the six years I was Governor of New Hampshire, PPNNE held the Title X contract with the state and I am very familiar with the high quality of care they provide. PPNNE is a critical provider in our state's health care safety net, and I hope that the your agency will work with them to continue making reproductive health care available in New Hampshire.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator

CC: Howard Koh, Assistant Secretary for Health, US Department of Health and Human Services