[Urging the United States Department of Health and Human Services to Rescind New Title X Regulations]

Resolution urging the United States Department of Health and Human Services to rescind the new Title X regulations that will impede access to essential, time-sensitive health care for low-income women, men, and teens in San Francisco and the United States.

WHEREAS, The federal Title X family planning program was established in 1970 by Congress with broad bi-partisan support to provide high-quality family planning services and other preventive care to low-income and uninsured individuals who may otherwise lack access to health care; and

WHEREAS, Title X is the sole federal program dedicated to funding family planning services, including birth control, pregnancy testing, and sexually transmitted disease prevention and treatment; and

WHEREAS, Title X supports outreach and education efforts that link community members to care; and

WHEREAS, California's Title X provider network – the largest and most diverse Title X system in the country – served more than one million low-income Californians in 2017, over 25% of all Title X patients nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Every \$1 invested in publicly-funded family planning and related services saves taxpayers \$7 by helping avert costs related to unintended pregnancies; and

WHEREAS, \$1.3 billion is saved annually in California because of public investment in family planning and related services provided at Title X health centers across the state; and

WHEREAS, Title X-funded health centers in California helped avert more than 200,000 unintended pregnancies in 2015; and

WHEREAS, Title X is an essential part of California's family planning safety-net, contributing to a 30-year low in the rate of unintended pregnancy and the lowest teen pregnancy rate in the state's history; and

WHEREAS, Nearly 20,000 low-income women, men, and teens in the City and County of San Francisco received family planning and related health services in 2017 at Title X-funded health centers; and

WHEREAS, More than 52% of Title X patients in the City and County of San Francisco remain uninsured, and more than 77% earn below 150% or less of the Federal Poverty Level; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco County Department of Public Health provided Title X-funded family planning and related services to more than 6,000 patients across 10 County clinics in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Asian and Pacific Islander Wellness Center, Planned Parenthood, and Women's Community Clinic received Title X funding in 2017 to support their delivery of quality family planning and related services; and

WHEREAS, The new federal Title X regulations interfere with the provider-patient relationship and gag Title X-funded agencies – including clinics operated by the Department of Public Health – by directing providers to withhold full and accurate medical information from patients about pregnancy options or provide referrals to abortion care; and

WHEREAS, Patients rely on and trust their health care providers to provide a comprehensive, accurate and unbiased evaluation of their condition, along with all available treatment options; and

WHEREAS, The American Medical Association's Code of Medical Ethics establishes that withholding information without the patient's knowledge or consent is ethically

unacceptable and that patients should be informed of all burdens, risks, and expected benefits of all medical options; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco strongly believes public dollars should go toward family planning programs that provide comprehensive, medically accurate, unbiased information, and offer the full range of contraceptive methods; and

WHEREAS, The federal Government's Title X regulations are likely to force many health care organizations and qualified family planning providers in San Francisco to choose between a critical funding source and accepting onerous and unnecessary regulations, resulting in reduced access to quality, time-sensitive care for low-income individuals across the County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors urges the United States Department of Health and Human Services to rescind new Title X regulations which will impede access to essential, time-sensitive health care for low-income women, men and teens in San Francisco County and the country; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of the Resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the United States Department of Health and Human Services.



City and County of San Francisco **Tails**

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Resolution

File Number:

190255

Date Passed: March 12, 2019

Resolution urging the United States Department of Health and Human Services to rescind the new Title X regulations that will impede access to essential, time-sensitive health care for low-income women, men, and teens in San Francisco and the United States.

March 12, 2019 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

Ayes: 11 - Brown, Fewer, Haney, Mandelman, Mar, Peskin, Ronen, Safai, Stefani, Walton and Yee

File No. 190255

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on 3/12/2019 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

3/22/2019

London N. Breed Mayor

Date Approved

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.