

Planned Parenthood of Southern New England Public Hearing Testimony Guide and Template

Submitting Written Testimony

If you cannot attend that day, you can still submit written testimony via email.

You can email written testimony in PDF format to the Human Services Committee HStestimony@cga.ct.gov by 9:00 AM on March 5.

Template Testimony:

NOTE: your testimony should not be more than 3 minutes long and/or 1 page (max 1.5 pages).

Focus on YOUR story or why the subject personally impacts you, your family, community, etc.

PLEASE: replace the yellow and italics with YOUR OWN WRITING

Dear Senator Moore, Representative Abercrombie and distinguished members of the Human Services Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony today. My name is Sarah Ganong and I live in Hartford, Connecticut.

I am testifying in strong support of raised S.B. 274 *An Act Concerning Increased Funding To Planned Parenthood And Other Family Planning Clinics* which will provide critical funding for continued access to preventive reproductive health care for the people of Connecticut who already struggle to get the care they need.

As a patient of Planned Parenthood in Connecticut for several years now, I've seen first-hand the importance of the wide variety of healthcare they provide to members of our communities. When I needed urgent reproductive healthcare, I knew I could count on the kind, affordable, and knowledgeable providers at Planned Parenthood.

Healthcare is a human right.

That means that all people need and deserve equal access to comprehensive healthcare, including sexual and reproductive healthcare, regardless of income, zip code, legal status, gender, or sexual orientation. Planned Parenthood provides these resources to populations who need them the most, and who are often least able to afford them.

As the only federal program dedicated to affordable family planning and preventative health care (like wellness exams, cancer screenings, birth control, and sexually transmitted disease treatment and testing), without the Title X program many patients will lose access to free or low-cost basic care.

Our very own Planned Parenthood of Southern New England (where I have been a patient) had been in the Title X program since its creation nearly 50 years ago until being forced out last August.

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Thank you to Governor Lamont and elected leaders for supporting family planning funding in the budget and continuing our state's strong commitment to protecting and improving women's health care. I strongly support raised S.B. 274 and urge the committee and legislature to vote favorably to support funding for family planning providers, including Planned Parenthood of Southern New England, and protect access to sexual and reproductive health care for those most in need in our state.

Thank you for your time,

Sarah Ganong
Hartford, CT