

I am opposed to using taxpayer money to fund Southern New England Planned Parenthood for these reasons:

1. Planned Parenthood of Southern New England is doing very well financially and will not need these funds. Their most recently available report of March, 2018, shows them with a very healthy surplus over the preceding 2 years of approximately \$11 million. I am sure other testifiers will present you with detailed statistics to show the financial health of Planned Parenthood of Southern New England.
2. Connecticut has enough budget woes with rising costs and people hurting from recent cuts—why add more financial stress with this unnecessary expense?
3. Most abortions in Connecticut are done in clinics, and Planned Parenthood runs 17 of the 18 clinics that do abortions in this state. Because Husky insurance covers abortions at 100% and because 75% of abortions in CT (from 2018 statistics—the most recent available) are through Husky insurance, taxpayers are funding 75% of abortions already. There is good reason why the federal government does not allow federal tax revenue to fund abortions: such funding violates the religious freedom rights of taxpayers who do not want their tax dollars to pay for the deliberate taking of innocent human life.
4. Planned Parenthood is not essential for women's comprehensive health services. There are plenty of other clinics that provide these services. In fact, unless things have changed very recently, Planned Parenthood does not even do mammograms, the most common and effective screening test to detect early breast cancer.

Thank you in advance for doing the right thing and rejecting SB 274.