

[SB 274](#) An Act Concerning Increased Funding To Planned Parenthood And Other Family Planning Clinics

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

My name is Jeremy Stone, I am from Portland. I am a dad, a teacher in New Haven, CT, and a husband to the Director, Clinical Staff Trainer at Planned Parenthood.

I am testifying in 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.

Planned Parenthood has offered comprehensive sexuality education to the high school students at my school in New Haven for over 10 years. I have personally referred young people to Planned Parenthood who would not be able to afford reproductive health care without Planned Parenthood's Title X Public Funding source. Publicly funded reproductive health care and comprehensive sexuality education saves lives of those most vulnerable. It protects the citizens of CT that may not have the means to access this care without assistance. It protects teens who are learning about their bodies, consent, and sexuality.

I can't stress enough how I know first-hand that people need and deserve equal access to comprehensive health care, including sexual and reproductive health care, because health care is a human right. The Title X program fights health care inequity by serving populations that have historically faced significant barriers to care, including people of color, people of low income, LGBTQ+ people, immigrants and people living in rural areas.

Please support Planned Parenthood by 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,

Jeremy Stone
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