

Expanding Access to Family Planning Act

Senator Tina Smith (D-Minn.), Senator Patty Murray (D-Wash.), and Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.)

Hundreds of thousands of American women rely on the Title X Family Planning Program for essential health care. Title X is the only federal program dedicated to providing comprehensive family planning and preventive health services. In 2020, over 1.5 million patients received family planning services through Title X. A majority of Title X patients are younger than 30 years old. In addition, Title X recipients are more likely to have low-incomes and to be uninsured.¹

Title X was established over 50 years ago with broad bipartisan support and the goal of decreasing unintended pregnancies and improving health outcomes. The program provides a broad range of services, including wellness exams, cervical and breast cancer screenings, education on contraception and birth control, testing for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and HIV, pregnancy counseling, and basic infertility services.

After the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* and eviscerated the constitutional right to an abortion, more American women will need the family planning and preventive reproductive health care provided at Title X clinics. The Title X Family Planning Program is funded through the annual appropriations process, subjecting the program to an unpredictable, inconsistent funding stream.

Senators Smith and Murray's *Expanding Access to Family Planning Act* would provide a consistent and strong source of funding for Title X. Specifically, their bill would:

- Provide \$500 million in mandatory funding for Title X services for each of the next 10 fiscal years. This is well above the \$286 million the program received in FY2022.
- Deliver \$50 million in mandatory funding for clinic construction, renovation, and related infrastructure enhancements for each of the next 10 fiscal years.
- Reinstate regulations prohibiting discrimination of providers who deliver Title X services.
- Require that pregnancy counseling include information about prenatal care and delivery, infant care, foster care, adoption, and pregnancy termination, unless a patient does not have any interest in receiving information about an option.

The Expanding Access to Family Planning Act is endorsed by: Planned Parenthood, National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association, Physicians for Reproductive Health, Catholics for Choice, the National Partnership for Women & Families, Power to Decide, NARAL Pro-Choice America, National Council of Jewish Women, URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity, In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda, National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice, ACLU, Advocates for Youth, National Women's Law Center, and the Center for Reproductive Rights.

¹ <https://opa.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/2021-09/title-x-fpar-2020-national-summary-sep-2021.pdf>