

January 13, 2026

The Honorable Jason Smith
Chair, House Committee on Ways & Means
1139 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal
Ranking Member, House Committee on Ways & Means
1129 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Smith and Ranking Member Neal,

The undersigned 46 organizations write in strong opposition to the proposed bill, H.R. 6945 or the “Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act.” This bill attempts to divert critical funds to anti-abortion centers, also known as crisis pregnancy centers (CPCs), which are organizations that use shame and misinformation to discourage people from seeking abortion care and often coerce pregnant people seeking abortions into carrying pregnancies to term. The bill seeks to stigmatize and restrict access to abortion care by encouraging the misuse of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds for CPCs rather than for supporting families experiencing economic hardships, which TANF funds are intended to do. **We strongly oppose this bill, which would take essential funding away from families in need and instead fund these ideological organizations that regularly deny pregnant people comprehensive and accurate information about reproductive health care.** All people have the right to access accurate information and evidence-based care when making personal medical decisions, including the decision to have an abortion.

TANF is a block grant to states to fund income assistance, work supports, and other services, including child care, for children and parents with low incomes. Between 2017-2023, more than \$102 million in TANF funds have gone to CPCs,¹ despite the fact that most CPCs are anti-abortion organizations with a demonstrated history of providing deceptive and coercive information to manipulate pregnant people and scare or dissuade them from having an abortion. CPCs intentionally prey on and coerce young people, people of color, and those with low incomes into making certain reproductive health decisions.²

When pregnant people, including young people, go to CPCs, they assume that these are all clinics run by licensed health care providers who will provide medically-accurate,

¹ https://www.healthmanagement.com/wp-content/uploads/CPC-Federal-Funding-Report_20240614_hma.pdf

² <https://www.acog.org/advocacy/abortion-is-essential/trending-issues/issue-brief-crisis-pregnancy-centers>;
<https://siecus.org/anti-choice-groups-target-people-of-color-2/>

evidence-based health care. These centers, however, give out false, incomplete, or inaccurate medical information, often from untrained, unlicensed individuals, and push unproven, potentially dangerous practices.³ For example, despite the lack of evidence or data, CPCs continue to expand their support for abortion “reversal,” a practice that the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists says is “not based on science and do[es] not meet clinical standards.”⁴

A major study of 607 anti-abortion centers across nine states found that almost two-thirds of anti-abortion centers “promoted patently false and/or biased medical claims about pregnancy, abortion, contraception, and reproductive health care providers.”⁵ Additionally, fewer than half reported having a licensed medical professional on staff. And yet, an alarming lack of oversight and accountability of CPCs enables their deceptive practices to continue, thus preventing pregnant people from getting the care they need.⁶

Many CPCs also deceive abortion seekers about their privacy practices: most anti-abortion centers are not Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)-covered entities, though many claim to be HIPAA-compliant in order to collect sensitive information and mislead pregnant people.⁷ CPCs amass and store extensive health data, leaving patients’ personal information vulnerable to data breaches, misuse by anti-abortion networks, and access by law enforcement. In the absence of HIPAA privacy obligations, CPCs can disclose—and already have disclosed—pregnant people’s health information to law enforcement, fueling investigations into pregnancy outcomes like abortion and miscarriage.^{8 9}

When a person has decided to have an abortion, they deserve to be able to access medically sound care. Instead, CPCs oppose abortion and use their time with pregnant patients to shame and intentionally trick them out of getting the care and information they are seeking. H.R. 6945 is a deliberately deceptive attempt to further control people’s bodies, lives, and futures.

While TANF is far from sufficient to provide the full support that families who are struggling to make ends meet need, it is a lifeline for many of the families it serves. Diverting TANF funding, which is already incredibly limited, to CPCs further disadvantages families in need while contributing to fear, confusion, and stigma for people who are seeking abortion care. For these reasons, we strongly oppose this harmful legislation.

³ <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9189146/#cit0003>

⁴ <https://www.acog.org/advocacy/facts-are-important/medication-abortion-reversal-is-not-supported-by-science>

⁵ https://alliancestateadvocates.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/107/Alliance_CPC_Report_FINAL2-1-22.pdf

⁶ <https://revealnews.org/article/this-nurse-wanted-to-help-women-avoid-abortions-then-she-saw-infection-control-problems-at-a-crisis-pregnancy-center/>

⁷ <https://time.com/6189528/anti-abortion-pregnancy-centers-collect-data-investigation/>

⁸ <https://visiblemagazine.com/crisis-pregnancy-centers-threat/>

⁹ <https://prismreports.org/2022/08/24/anti-abortion-centers-surveilling-criminalizing-clients/>

Sincerely,

Abortion Forward
Advance Maryland
Advocates for Trans Equality
AIDS Foundation Chicago
All* In Action Fund
Arkansas Black Gay Men's Forum
Avodah
CASH Campaign of Maryland
Center for Reproductive Rights
CommonDefense.us
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)
Doctors for America
Equality California
Greenbelt Alliance for Reproductive Freedom (GARF)
Guttmacher Institute
Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America
In Our Own Voice: National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda
Indivisible
Japanese American Citizens League
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
Legal Action Center
Lift Louisiana
Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault
National Abortion Federation
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum
National Council of Jewish Women
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association
National Health Law Program
National Institute for Reproductive Health
National Latina Institute for Reproductive Justice
National Network of Abortion Funds
National Organization for Women
National Partnership for Women & Families
National Women's Law Center Action Fund
Nebraska Appleseed
New Disabled South
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Positive Women's Network-USA

Power to Decide

Reproaction

Reproductive Freedom for All

Reproductive Justice Action Collective

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine

The California LGBTQ Health and Human Services Network

Trans Maryland

Vivent Health