



## Text File

**Introduced:** 7/17/2018

**Bill No:** 2018-0733, **Version:** 1

**Committee:** City Council

**Status:** Adopted

**WHEREAS**, Title X projects must currently offer pregnant women referrals upon request for a range of options, including for prenatal care and delivery; infant care, foster care, or adoption; and abortion; and

**WHEREAS**, Title X funding goes to a network of more than 4,500 clinics that serve more than 5 million patients every year; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) on June 1, 2018, that would change the regulations governing Title X; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed NPRM gag rule would ban doctors, nurses, hospitals, community health centers, and any other provider from giving patients referrals for abortions; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed rule would require that a project may not “provide, promote, refer for, support, or present abortion as a method of family planning” and would only allow pregnant patients to be given a list of “comprehensive health service providers who do not provide abortion as a part of their services;” and

**WHEREAS**, the NPRM’s publication in the Federal Register marks the beginning of a notice-and-comment rulemaking process. For a period of 60 days, the agency will solicit public comment on the proposal. After this period ends, HHS will review all the received comments and may issue a final rule; and

**WHEREAS**, major medical associations like the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American College of Physicians, and others oppose this rule; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 200 members of Congress and more than 110 public health organizations have come out in opposition to the gag rule policy; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby oppose the United States Department of Health and Human Services’ proposed rule changes to Title X and the harmful effects of a lack of basic healthcare and services that stem from these changes; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh hereby urges the Department of Health and Human Services to study the public’s support of family planning services and to take steps to provide access to all forms of reproductive health information and services without information bans.