



United States  
Conference of  
Catholic Bishops

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Washington, DC usccb.org  
20017

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Virginia Foxx  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

May 8, 2026

Dear Senator Blackburn and Representative Foxx:

On behalf of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, I write to express support for the Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act ([S.4329](#) / [H.R. 343](#)). This legislation would amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) from providing federal family planning grants to entities that perform abortions, or that provide funds to other entities that perform abortions. This legislation would therefore stop major abortion providers from receiving this taxpayer funding.

The family is recognized in Catholic teaching as the *ecclesia domestica* or "domestic church," serving as the fundamental building block of both the Church and society. Those who have answered the vocation of parenthood, especially mothers, must be supported and protected through access to authentic, life-affirming health care. Section 1008 of the Public Health Service Act explicitly states that Title X funds "shall not be used in programs where abortion is a method of family planning." However, with an exception in the first Trump Administration, most previous administrations have interpreted the law to allow abortion clinics to be co-located with Title X recipient facilities. As a result, major abortion providers, such as Planned Parenthood, were able to receive federal family planning funds for projects that shared the same facility, staff, and waiting room as their abortion clinics, and often referred women for on-site abortions.

We have consistently called for the separation of abortion from the Title X family planning program<sup>1</sup>, but organizations like Planned Parenthood, despite performing hundreds of thousands of abortions every year, continue to receive millions of dollars in taxpayer money annually. This legislation would build upon Congress's efforts to end access to taxpayer funding for one of the nation's largest abortion providers, as was done with the passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

Abortion has no place in a taxpayer-funded program. This legislation would further solidify the intended statutory distinction and would safeguard the integrity of federal health programs.

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<sup>1</sup> USCCB press release: "Cardinal Dolan Says Separating Abortion from Title X Family Planning Program is "Greatly Needed" and "Deeply Appreciated," May 18, 2018. <https://www.usccb.org/news/2018/cardinal-dolan-says-separating-abortion-title-x-family-planning-program-greatly-needed>



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We are very grateful for your leadership in the Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act. We urge your colleagues to support and pass this important legislation. Thank you for your work to ensure the safety and well-being of mothers and their babies. We stand ready to support your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "+ Daniel E. Thomas".

Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas  
Bishop of Toledo  
Chairman, Committee on Pro-Life Activities