



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES PROJECT

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President's Final Budget Misses Opportunity to Strike the Hyde Amendment's Restriction on Abortion Coverage

(Washington, D.C.) – Today, President Obama submitted his fiscal year (FY) 2017 budget to Congress. While the proposed budget would give the District of Columbia the authority and autonomy to use local funds to cover abortions for low-income District women, the President, unfortunately, did not use his final budget to advance the fight to eliminate the Hyde Amendment, which bans Medicaid coverage for abortion care.

“The budget should be a symbol of our values. It is disappointing that President Obama did not take this opportunity to signal to Congress that he will use the final months of his term to stand up for low-income women,” said Reproductive Health Technologies Project (RHTP) President and CEO Jessica Arons.

“It is not enough to defend against extremist attacks on abortion rights. We must be proactive if we are to see meaningful change for women across the country.

“However, given the current political debate about the Hyde Amendment's impact on the most vulnerable women, RHTP remains optimistic that ending this unfair and burdensome measure will be a priority in the next President's agenda.”

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Founded in 1982, the mission of the Reproductive Health Technologies Project is to advance the ability of every woman of any age to achieve full reproductive freedom with access to the safest, most effective, appropriate and acceptable technologies for ensuring her own health and controlling her fertility. To fulfill this mission, we seek to build consensus in support of an education, research and advocacy agenda for reproductive health and reproductive freedom, and we do so through a process of dialogue among diverse communities about technological developments and their global implications.

CONTACT:

Erica Prosser, RHTP
202-530-4401(o)/810-434-3201(c)
eprosser@rhtp.org