



Media Contact:
Melanie Chasteen
Director of Communications
512.791.5110
Melanie@txcampaign.org

Congress Releases FY 2016 Omnibus Funding Bill; Brings Good News for Texas

(December 17, 2015) Early yesterday morning, Congress released the long-awaited Omnibus Funding Bill that would fund the federal government through the remainder of Fiscal Year (FY) 2016. The House and Senate expect to vote on the bill in the next few days.

This legislation would maintain funding for programs critical to reducing teen and unplanned pregnancy, including \$43.3 in investments to serve more than 104,000 youth across Texas over the next five years. Specifically, the bill includes:

- \$101 million for the evidence-based Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program (TPPP), consistent with the FY 2015 funding level.
- \$6.8 million for evaluation of teen pregnancy prevention approaches, consistent with the FY 2015 funding level.
- \$286.5 million for the Title X Family Planning Program, consistent with the FY 2015 level.
- \$33.1 million for the Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH), an increase of \$2 million over the FY 2015 level.
- \$638.2 million for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, an increase of \$1.2 million over the FY 2015 level.

In addition to these programs, the bill would provide \$10 million--double the FY 2015 funding level--for the Sexual Risk Avoidance abstinence education.

"The Texas Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy applauds Congress for working together to continue funding for the evidence-based Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program," says Dr. Gwen Daverth, Texas Campaign President & CEO. "Though tremendous strides have been made over the past 20 years in reducing teen pregnancy rates nationwide, Texas still ranks #3 in number of teen pregnancies and sits at the top of the list for repeat teen births. This funding allows several organizations in key areas of the state to continue their important work.

"While we are excited that policymakers kept funding stable, we still have a lot of work to do. It's as important as ever that we continue to advocate for good policies on the national and state level that give adolescents the tools, resources, and information they need to stay healthy and become contributing members of society."

About the Texas Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

The Texas Campaign is dedicated to improving the quality of life for children, families and communities across Texas. They provide leadership on this issue by focusing on what works and by connecting Texas communities to the research and tools they need to make an impact. To learn more, visit www.txcampaign.org.