

July 23, 2018

Jeff Jimerson
29428 Lakeside Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97333

Re: Financial Estimate Statement for IP 1

Dear Secretary Richardson and members of the committee:

I find at least three major flaws in the draft Financial Estimate Statement prepared for Initiative Petition 1 (IP 1).

The following is from the Preliminary Discussion Draft:

*Consistent with the estimated annual expenditures on abortions described in the previous section, **OHP and the RHEA are expected to support the costs of approximately 5,000 nonexempt abortions each year.** Based on a literature review of 38 U.S. studies on the effect of Preliminary discussion DRAFT federal and state restrictions on publically funded abortions, the Guttmacher Institute concluded when public funds are restricted for supporting abortion services for women eligible for these programs, an estimated 25 percent of the women carry their pregnancy to term instead of having an abortion funded through other means. When applying this estimate, approximately **1,250 additional births** would occur each year from low-income women if public funds are prohibited from supporting abortions in Oregon.*

First, according to a report obtained by the Oregon Health Authority ¹ there are approximately 3,700 abortions funded annually through the Oregon Health Plan (OHP). If 25% were carried to term, **the total number of “additional births” would be approximately 925 — not 1,250.** This is because the Reproductive Health Equity Act (RHEA) of 2017 does not allow for publicly-funded labor and delivery services for undocumented residents, as it does so for abortions (see HB 3391, section 5). Accounting for the use of public funds for any “additional births” outside of the 3,700 is therefore inaccurate.

Second, I see no mention of the estimated financial impact for developing and implementing the new program mandated by RHEA to provide publicly-funded abortions for **customers of Providence Health** (see HB 3391, section 2(7)(e)). The cost savings to Oregon taxpayers would no doubt be significant with the passage of IP 1. The Financial Estimate Statement must inform voters of these anticipated reduced expenditures.

Third, the draft Financial Estimate Statement relies on studies conducted by **the Guttmacher Institute** as one of its primary sources for determining the financial impact of IP 1. This is inappropriate and unacceptable for the following reasons.

- The Guttmacher Institute has been widely known for decades to be **the research arm of Planned Parenthood**,² the largest abortion provider in the United States. According to the Guttmacher Institute’s website,³ the organization was previously **“housed within the corporate structure of Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA).”** Further, the Guttmacher Institute **“has received financial support from PPFA”** and it is named after Alan F. Guttmacher who **“was PPFA’s president for more than a decade.”**
- The two PPFA affiliates which operate abortion clinics in Oregon — Planned Parenthood Columbia Willamette and Planned Parenthood of Southwestern Oregon — are **actively opposing IP 1** in their email marketing and on their Facebook pages.⁴ These organizations receive hundreds of thousands of dollars annually from Oregon taxpayers by way of reimbursement payments for abortions covered under OHP.
- Given the Guttmacher Institute’s deep ties to Planned Parenthood **one must assume its research findings are biased toward policies supported by the abortion industry, including the support of publicly-funded abortion.**

In conclusion, when preparing to publish “an impartial, simple and understandable statement explaining the financial effects of the measure” in the state Voters’ Pamphlet (ORS 250.125), the full and accurate impact of RHEA / HB 3391 must be considered, and studies produced by organizations that openly oppose IP 1 must be rejected.

Thank you for your careful consideration of these concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Jimerson". The signature is stylized and cursive.

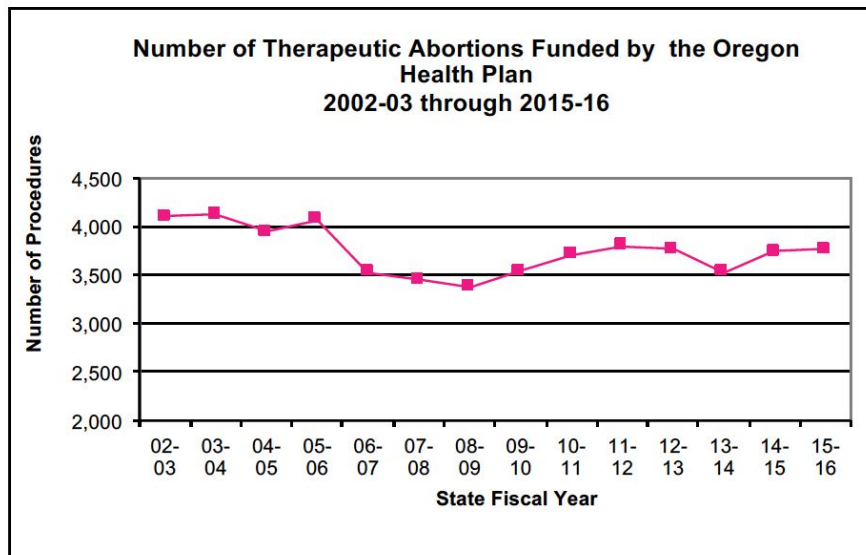
Jeff Jimerson
Co-Chief Petitioner for IP 1

References

1. Report obtained by an Oregon Health Authority information request:

Number of Therapeutic Abortions Funded by the Oregon Health Plan State Fiscal Years 2002-03 through 2015-16

State Fiscal Year	number of procedures ^{*1}	Total Cost ^{*1}	Cost / Procedure
02-03	4,105	\$1,889,745	\$460
03-04	4,126	\$1,676,068	\$406
04-05	3,950	\$1,486,187	\$376
05-06	4,064	\$1,563,232	\$385
06-07	3,527	\$1,447,982	\$411
07-08	3,446	\$1,520,896	\$441
08-09	3,374	\$1,525,828	\$452
09-10	3,540	\$1,650,468	\$466
10-11	3,708	\$1,758,289	\$474
11-12	3,795	\$1,721,447	\$454
12-13	3,763	\$1,707,193	\$454
13-14	3,532	\$1,725,050	\$488
14-15	3,739	\$1,794,583	\$480
15-16	3,769	\$2,420,753	\$642



*1: data extracted/updated from the DMAP DSS warehouse 20 January 2017

NOTE: Given the relationship between date of service and date of submission to MMIS updates may result in adjustment of numbers for recent time periods per previous versions of this report

2. Screenshot retrieved on July 22, 2018 from the Chicago Tribune's website. (http://articles.chicagotribune.com/1994-06-16/news/9406160316_1_anti-abortion-abortion-services-women-with-unwanted-pregnancies)

Chicago Tribune HOME NEWS BUSINESS SPORTS A&E LIFESTYLES OPINION

Some anti-abortion groups viewed the study skeptically because they said that the Guttmacher Institute, the research arm of Planned Parenthood, intended the numbers to support efforts to include abortion services in national health-care coverage.

"This organization (Guttmacher) gets a lot of money through abortion, and by saying this is not the problem we all think it is, they are lessening it as a threat and putting a good spin on it," said Kristi Hamrick, a spokesman for the conservative Family Research Council in Washington, D.C.

3. <https://www.guttmacher.org/about/history>

4. Screenshots retrieved on July 22, 2018 from the Facebook pages of Planned Parenthood Columbia Willamette and Planned Parenthood of Southwestern Oregon.

Planned Parenthood Columbia Willamette
July 9 at 12:13 PM · 🌐

Anti-abortion extremists could be one step closer to qualifying a ballot initiative that would cut access to care for vulnerable Oregonians and public employees. Sign the pledge to tell extremists they have no place in Oregon: NoCutsToCare.com. #NoCuts2Care

Planned Parenthood of Southwestern Oregon
July 10 at 10:00 AM · 🌐

Initiative Petition 1 sets a dangerous precedent by cherry-picking which procedures insurance will and won't cover, and it could be headed toward the ballot this November. Join PPSO in the fight by signing the pledge to vote NO on IP 1! Please visit NoCutsToCare.com. #NoCuts2Care

Defend reproductive health freedom in Oregon

Pledge to vote NO on IP 1!

NO!