

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

November 28, 2016

The Honorable Sylvia Mathews Burwell
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

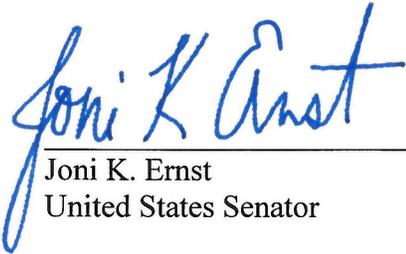
Dear Secretary Burwell,

On November 17, 2016, we received a response from your Department – dated November 9, 2016 – to our September 23, 2016, letter regarding the Department’s recent Title X Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

As noted in our letter – signed by 110 Members of Congress – we submitted our letter both to your office and as a formal comment. While we appreciate the Department’s commitment to reviewing and considering our comment before taking any further rulemaking action, separate and apart from the formal rulemaking process, we also expect a detailed response. Your correspondence did not address a single concern raised in our letter. The Department’s non-answer to our inquiry shows disrespect for the oversight role of Congress and for those Americans who, like us, have grave concerns regarding this overreaching proposed rule.

Please contact Taryn Frideres with Senator Ernst’s office at taryn_frideres@ernst.senate.gov or 202-224-7150, or Katie Mitchell with Representative Black’s office at Katie.Mitchell@mail.house.gov or 202-225-4231 to inform us as to when we can expect a more thorough response. Since our initial letter was sent almost two months ago, we trust that we will receive such a response before the end of the year.

Sincerely,



Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator



Diane Black
United States Congressman