

**Coalition of Labor Union Women
16th Biennial Convention
Orlando, Florida
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NO CUTS TO WOMEN'S HEALTH

President Obama's Affordable Care Act provides needed health care benefits to women and families but has been under constant attack. Attempts are continually made to repeal it or greatly limit what it provides. A War on Women has been declared by conservative forces who have sought to close Planned Parenthood health centers. They would deny women basic reproductive health care as well as the right to a legal, safe abortion even though no public funding is spent on abortions at Planned Parenthood.

Draconian cuts have been proposed which would reduce Title X and Medicaid funding and eligibility for Medicaid, resulting in the closing of Planned Parenthood and other women's health centers which provide basic reproductive health care services such as gynecological exams, cancer screenings, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, patient education and counseling, pregnancy testing, prenatal counseling and referrals, contraception, HIV testing and counseling, screening for diabetes, hypertension and other health conditions.

Early detection of cancer, diabetes, hypertension and other conditions saves taxpayers in treatment costs and saves lives. The Guttmacher Institute reported that family planning saves taxpayers nearly \$4 for every \$1 invested. The closing of women's health centers would further stretch other clinics where the wait for prenatal visits can be as long as 12 weeks and emergency room visits are a costly alternative.

An important provision in the health law is mandatory coverage without co-pays or deductibles for many preventive health care services. Women's advocates have strongly recommended coverage of all FDA-approved contraceptives as part of basic preventive care.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

CLUW is committed to keeping all benefits and protections for women included in the Affordable Care Act. CLUW will continue to vigorously fight any proposed cuts to women's health care.

CLUW will oppose cuts to Title X, Medicaid and Medicare which hurt women, the working poor, the elderly and the young. CLUW will continue to support Planned Parenthood and other women's health organizations in their mission to provide basic reproductive health care services to all women.

CLUW will advocate for legislation and worker contract benefits to assure that women have access to all FDA approved birth control methods as part of preventive care without co-pays.

CLUW will continue to support coverage for prenatal and maternity care, birth control and abortion services as a basic health care right.