



Policy Brief

Government Funding of Planned Parenthood

Planned Parenthood's most recent annual report states that on a national basis the organization performed 327,166 abortions over a 12-month period, making it the single largest abortion provider in the U.S. By comparison, during the same year the organization made only 2,197 referrals for adoption, which equates to a ratio of 149 abortions performed for every one woman who was assisted in placing her child for adoption. Planned Parenthood reported receiving \$540.6 million in funds from various government sources, or about 45 percent of its total annual revenues of \$1.21 billion. In Alaska, Planned Parenthood operates abortion facilities in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau.

In 2011 and 2012, the legislatures of a half-dozen states voted to eliminate funding for Planned Parenthood; several other states reduced or eliminated Planned Parenthood funding as a result of executive branch actions. These funding cuts have been motivated by several factors, including Planned Parenthood's zealous opposition to even the most common sense regulations over abortion, such as requirements that parents be notified before an abortion is performed on their minor daughter.

In addition, Planned Parenthood affiliates have been the subject of numerous audits that have uncovered over \$8 million in overpayments of Title XIX-Medicaid funds. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) is now investigating how Planned Parenthood spends public funds, an investigation triggered in part by a request letter signed by 72 members of Congress.

Alaska Family Council believes that funding of Planned Parenthood is contrary to the best interests of state government, and it forces Alaskan taxpayers to unwillingly subsidize the many objectionable practices of this organization.