

April 27th, 2005

FUND TEEN PREGNANCY PROGRAMS THAT WORK

**Join us as a co-sponsor of the "Responsible Funding to Stop Teen
Pregnancy Act."**

May 3rd, 2006, is the National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, reminding us that while we have made significant strides as a nation to reduce teen pregnancy, there is still much work to be done. Despite outreach and education efforts at the state and federal levels, according to the CDC, 47 percent of teenagers in grades 9-12 are sexually active and approximately 820,000 teenage girls become pregnant each year. These are real numbers that need to be addressed with strategies based on scientific evidence.

The "Responsible Funding to Stop Teen Pregnancy Act," authorizes the Secretary of HHS to dispense \$20 million in competitive grants to organizations that implement scientifically evaluated and medically accurate sex-education programs. Groups that receive funds must incorporate programs proven to delay sexual intercourse or sexual activity, increase condom or contraceptive use, or reduce teenage pregnancy.

Federally funded programs to reduce teen pregnancy should employ techniques proven to be effective through rigorous scientific research. The Act defines such research as that which 1) measures impact on sexual or contraceptive behavior, pregnancy or childbearing 2) employs an experimental design with well-constructed comparison groups; and 3) has a sample size large enough and a follow-up interval long enough to draw valid conclusions about impact.

Please join us in empowering American families by giving teenagers all the information they need to make responsible decisions. Contact Una Lee in Rep. Harman's office at 5-8220 or Marissa Varnadore in Rep. Shays' office at 5-5541 for more information or to cosponsor this legislation.

Sincerely,

/s
JANE HARMAN
Member of Congress

/s
CHRISTOPHER SHAYS
Member of Congress

/s
NANCY L. JOHNSON
Member of Congress