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For Immediate Release

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**House Appropriations Plan Would Severely Cut or Eliminate Funding
for Programs to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy**
**A Statement from The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned
Pregnancy**

(Washington, DC)—On September 29th, the House Appropriations Committee released its plan for the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (LHHS) appropriations bill for FY 2012. This bill is generally seen as a signal of the House Republicans' priorities and negotiating positions as the House and Senate work on a longer-term measure for the remainder of the fiscal year that began October 1st. The House bill provides funding about \$5 billion below the bill developed by Senate Democrats, which is 2.5 percent below last year's level and 15 percent below what President Obama requested. Beyond the funding constraints, the House bill also contains about 40 "riders," or policy provisions, including some aimed at teen pregnancy prevention programs, family planning programs and providers, and health reform.

Specific provisions include:

- Cutting the Office of Adolescent Health Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Program by \$65 million (from \$105 million to \$40 million), and directing \$20 million of the remaining funds for abstinence-only education. In addition, the bill wipes out existing language directing most of the current funding to effective programs.
- Eliminating entirely the Title X Family Planning Program and adding several restrictive riders.
- Rescinding \$1 billion for the Prevention and Public Health Fund.
- Blocking implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which would mean ending mandatory funding for the Personal Responsibility Education Program (\$75 million/year), Abstinence Education state grants (\$50 million/year), Pregnancy Assistance Fund (\$25 million/year), and Home Visiting programs (\$350 million/year).
- Blocking implementation of ACA would have the effect of ending preventive services for women, including contraception, with no cost sharing and the Medicaid Family Planning State Plan Amendment option.

In contrast, the FY 12 Labor-HHS-Education bill that passed the Senate Appropriations Committee on September 21st would continue funding for the Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Program grants and Title X Family Planning Program at current levels, and would not interfere with implementation of the Affordable Care Act or disrupt the mandatory funding provided through that Act.

In response to the House-proposed bill, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy's CEO, Sarah Brown, released the following statement:

“If enacted, the Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations bill released by the House Appropriations Committee late last week would essentially eliminate funding for programs that help to prevent teen and unplanned pregnancy. This is especially short-sighted in the context of the serious challenges facing our country. Effective programs that reduce teen and unplanned pregnancy not only improve the health and well-being of children and families but also contribute to a stronger and more competitive U.S. workforce, save taxpayer dollars, and reduce abortions as well. Cutting common-sense prevention programs is penny-wise and pound foolish. As an organization deeply committed to science-based approaches and funding what works, we are particularly distressed that the draft bill would almost entirely eliminate funding for evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programs. This would halt critically important programs in communities around the country that help young people delay pregnancy and parenting using a wide variety of rigorously-evaluated approaches.”

About The National Campaign: The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy seeks to improve the lives and future prospects of children and families. Our specific strategy is to prevent teen pregnancy and unplanned pregnancy among single, young adults. We support a combination of responsible values and behavior by both men and women and responsible policies in both the public and private sectors. If we are successful, child and family well-being will improve.