



For Immediate Release
March 5, 2008

Contact: Mary O'Shea
216-961-8804, ext 1209

Planned Parenthood Honors Rep. Tim Ryan

Ryan is one of 11 Congressional Supporters Honored for Preserving Family Planning

Congressman Tim Ryan is one of eleven legislators being honored this week by Planned Parenthood Federation of America for his hard work during 2007. His dedication to preserving women's health and rights is critical to the success of Planned Parenthood's mission. PPFA President Cecile Richards will honor the legislators at an event in Washington D.C.

In 2007, Planned Parenthood faced two unprecedented federal attacks designed to put Planned Parenthood out of business. First, Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN-06) offered an amendment to the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill that would have stripped all federal family planning dollars from Planned Parenthood affiliate health centers.

Later in the year, Sen. David Vitter (R-LA) offered a similar amendment to the Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill that would have prohibited all federal health care funding from being made available to any entity (except hospitals) that uses its own, private funds to perform abortions other than to save a woman's life.

Rep. Ryan said, "We have an obligation, a moral obligation, to fund programs like this and prevent unintended pregnancies ..."

Thanks in large part to the courageous leadership of 11 members of Congress who took a public stand against these attacks on America's leading reproductive health care provider; both of these amendments were soundly defeated.

Rep. Ryan also cosponsored the "Prevention Through Affordable Access Act" which would restore the practice of pharmaceutical companies providing low-cost contraceptives to health care providers that serve uninsured and low-income families, and to university health centers.

"Northeast Ohio is lucky to have Congressman Ryan," said Tara Broderick, CEO of Planned Parenthood of Northeast Ohio. "Ryan understands that prevention is the common sense approach to reducing unintended pregnancies."

For all honorees, and to read excerpts of their remarks, click here:

http://www.ppaction.org/ppvotes/08_congressional_supporters.html

###

Planned Parenthood of Northeast Ohio is a recent consolidation of Planned Parenthood of Greater Cleveland, Planned Parenthood of North Central Ohio, Planned Parenthood of Stark County, Planned Parenthood of Summit, Portage and Medina Counties, and Planned Parenthood of the Mahoning Valley. We provide essential

reproductive health care services to more than 57,000 women and men in our local Northeast Ohio communities. We serve as a leader in breast and cervical cancer screening and prevention, as well as prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted disease. We supply medically accurate sexuality education to thousands of young people and their parents.