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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4016

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State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Klippert and Warnick

Read first time 02/26/09. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1            TO THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND  
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE GOVERNOR OF EACH  
5 STATE, AND TO THE LEADER OF EACH BODY OF EACH STATE'S LEGISLATIVE  
6 ASSEMBLY:

7            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
8 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
9 represent and petition as follows:

10           WHEREAS, The life affirming impact of medical pregnancy resource  
11 centers on the women, men, children, and communities they serve is  
12 considerable and growing; and

13           WHEREAS, Medical pregnancy resource centers serve women in  
14 Washington and across the United States with integrity and compassion;  
15 and

16           WHEREAS, More than 2,500 medical pregnancy resource centers across  
17 the United States provide comprehensive care to women and men facing  
18 unplanned pregnancies, including resources to meet their physical,  
19 psychological, emotional, and spiritual needs; and

1       WHEREAS, Medical pregnancy resource centers offer women free,  
2 confidential, and compassionate services, including pregnancy tests,  
3 peer counseling, 24-hour telephone hotlines, childbirth and parenting  
4 classes, referrals to community, health care, and support services; and

5       WHEREAS, Many medical pregnancy resource centers offer ultrasound  
6 and other medical services; and

7       WHEREAS, Many medical pregnancy resource centers provide  
8 information on adoption and adoption referrals to pregnant mothers; and

9       WHEREAS, Medical pregnancy resource centers encourage women to make  
10 positive life choices by equipping them with complete and accurate  
11 information regarding their pregnancy options and the development of  
12 their unborn child; and

13       WHEREAS, Medical pregnancy resource centers provide women with  
14 compassionate and confidential peer counseling in a nonjudgmental  
15 manner, regardless of their pregnancy outcomes; and

16       WHEREAS, Medical pregnancy resource centers provide important  
17 support and resources for women who choose childbirth over abortion;  
18 and

19       WHEREAS, Medical pregnancy resource centers ensure that women are  
20 receiving prenatal information and services that lead to the birth of  
21 healthy infants; and

22       WHEREAS, Many medical pregnancy resource centers provide grief  
23 assistance for women and men who regret the loss of their children from  
24 past choices they have made; and

25       WHEREAS, Many medical pregnancy resource centers work to prevent  
26 unplanned pregnancies by teaching effective abstinence education in  
27 public schools; and

28       WHEREAS, Federal and state governments are increasingly recognizing  
29 the valuable services of pregnancy resource centers through the  
30 designation of public funds for such organizations; and

31       WHEREAS, Medical pregnancy resource centers operate primarily  
32 through reliance on the voluntary donations and time of caring  
33 individuals who are committed to caring for the needs of women and  
34 promoting and protecting life;

35       NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the  
36 President, Congress, governors, and state legislatures strongly support  
37 medical pregnancy resource centers in their unique, positive

1 contributions to the individual lives of women and men and of babies,  
2 both born and unborn.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that  
4 the President, Congress, governors, and state legislatures commend the  
5 compassionate work of tens of thousands of volunteers and paid staff at  
6 medical pregnancy resource centers in Washington and across the United  
7 States.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that  
9 the President, Congress, governors, and state legislatures encourage  
10 the federal and state government agencies to grant medical pregnancy  
11 resource centers assistance for medical equipment and abstinence  
12 education in a manner that does not compromise the mission or religious  
13 integrity of these organizations.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that  
15 the President, Congress, governors, and state legislatures disapprove  
16 of the actions of any national, state, or local groups attempting to  
17 prevent medical pregnancy resource centers from effectively serving  
18 women and men facing unplanned pregnancies.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
20 transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United  
21 States, the Governor of each state, the leader of each body of each  
22 state's legislative assembly, each medical pregnancy resource center in  
23 Washington, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of  
24 the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the  
25 State of Washington.

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