

## PO Box 7486 • Madison WI 53707-7486 608-268-5074 (Madison) • 866-849-2536 (toll-free) • 608-256-3370 (fax)

Email: info@wifamilyaction.org Web site: <a href="https://www.wifamilyaction.org">www.wifamilyaction.org</a>

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 11, 2016

Contact: Julaine Appling, President – 608-334-6435

Fax: 608-256-3370

Email: <u>info@wifamilyaction.org</u>

## WISCONSIN FAMILY ACTION COMMENDS STATE ASSEMBLY FOR PROTECTING TAXPAYERS BY DEFUNDING PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Assembly passes bill prohibiting Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin from overbilling state for drugs

Madison – "Stopping waste, fraud and abuse has been a hallmark of the state legislature recently, and today the Assembly stepped up once again to protect Wisconsin taxpayers from these misuses of their hard-earned tax dollars," said Julaine Appling, president of Wisconsin Family Action.

This afternoon the State Assembly passed a bill (SB 238) requiring certain family-planning organizations, including Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin, to bill the state and its tax payers the actual acquisition cost of prescription drugs it purchases and dispenses through a Medicaid drug program, plus these organizations can bill for a defined dispensing fee. The bill passed on a 61-35 vote along party lines.

For years, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin has been billing the state at the highest possible reimbursement rate, regardless of what the drugs actually cost them. Some estimate that this overbilling is as much as \$4.5 million per year. The bill was authored by Rep. André Jacque (R-De Pere) in the Assembly and Sen. Chris Kapenga (R-Delafield) in the Senate.

Appling commented, "This bill doesn't stop Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin from dispensing any drugs; they just don't get to pocket the tidy profit they've been making for years at the taxpayers' expense.

"Wisconsin Family Action thanks Rep. Jacque and Sen. Kapenga for their commitment to and their work on this bill and commends Assembly Speaker Robin Vos for putting the bill on the floor. Any day the taxpayers of our great state are protected from fraudulent use of their money is a good day."

The Senate passed SB 238 last month. The bill will now go to Governor Walker for signing.

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Wisconsin Family Action is a statewide, not-for-profit organization actively strengthening, preserving and promoting marriage, family, life and liberty in Wisconsin.