

PLANNED PARENTHOOD GULF COAST



RESPONSE TO SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 57
AND HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 105, 2013 REGULAR SESSION

ISSUED FEBRUARY 19, 2014

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LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
DARYL G. PURPERA, CPA, CFE

February 19, 2014

The Honorable Daniel “Danny” Martiny,
State Senator
The Honorable Frank A. Hoffman,
State Representative

Dear Senator Martiny and Representative Hoffman:

Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) No. 57 and House Resolution (HR) No. 105 of the 2013 Regular Session requested the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH), the Division of Administration (DOA), the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA), and the Office of Inspector General (OIG) to review/investigate and monitor the practices of Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast (Planned Parenthood) to determine whether the organization is in compliance with all state and federal laws and regulations. According to R.S. 40:1299.34.5(B), public funds may not be used for assisting with or performing an abortion except to save the life of the mother, pregnancy resulting from an alleged act of rape, and pregnancy resulting from an alleged act of incest. In addition, R.S. 40:1299.34 states that no person employed in any public or private social service agency, which is a recipient of any form of governmental assistance, shall require or recommend that any woman have an abortion.

During an August 5, 2013 meeting with representatives of DHH and the OIG, the requests were broken down into parts and assigned as follows:

- **LLA** - review Planned Parenthood billings to determine if they are appropriate, supportive, and in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations.
- **OIG** - conduct a legal review and independent investigation into allegations of the fraudulent billing practices of Planned Parenthood in Texas.
- **DHH** - evaluate whether to immediately suspend all grants and Medicaid reimbursements to Planned Parenthood.

Therefore, in partial fulfillment of SCR No. 57 and HR No. 105, we reviewed a sample of Medicaid payments DHH made to Planned Parenthood during calendar year 2012 to determine if they were appropriate and supported. Overall, we found that DHH made payments to Planned Parenthood for allowable family planning procedure codes under Medicaid. In addition, we found no indication that Planned Parenthood had recommended that a patient have an abortion or had performed an abortion for the patients in our sample. A summary of our analysis is as follows:

- We extracted and analyzed the claims data for all 25,936 claims DHH paid to Planned Parenthood for Medicaid reimbursements during calendar year 2012. These claims totaled \$641,874 for 7,677 recipients. We reviewed the procedure codes for the claims and determined that all were allowable codes for the Family Planning provider type under which Planned Parenthood is enrolled. The Planned Parenthood claims were processed through the Medicaid Management Information System, so all were subject to the Medicaid payment controls tested annually by the LLA. We did not find any evidence that Medicaid payments made to Planned Parenthood were not made through regular Medicaid processes for allowable Family Planning procedure codes.
- From these 25,936 claims, we also identified 22 patients that subsequently suffered a miscarriage, according to the procedure codes for Medicaid reimbursement, after being treated by Planned Parenthood. We reviewed the medical files for six of the 22 patients that appeared to have an established relationship with an obstetrician to obtain a complete understanding of the patient's medical history and the circumstances surrounding the miscarriages. This included reviewing emergency room records, obstetrician records, and Planned Parenthood medical records. Based on the file reviews, we did not find any indication that Planned Parenthood recommended an abortion or performed an abortion for these patients.

The purpose of this letter is solely to describe our work and conclusions pertaining to SCR No. 57 and HR No. 105. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this letter is a public document and it has been distributed to appropriate public officials.

Sincerely,



Daryl G. Purpera, CPA, CFE
Legislative Auditor

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