National Federation of Democratic Women Resolution on Protecting Women's Health Care

WHEREAS, studies have shown that relative to chronic diseases such as heart disease, Type II diabetes, cancer and stroke, women are frequently under-diagnosed and under-treated compared to men and that delayed treatment and delayed pharmacological treatment have led, in many cases, to a higher mortality rate. Likewise, prenatal care is critical for safe and healthy outcomes for pregnant women; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act, passed by the Obama Administration, provided health care to 24 million people, including people that had never had health care insurance before, and the rate of uninsured individuals reached an all-time low of 8.6% under the ACA, and 9 million women accessed prenatal care and delivery care; and

WHEREAS, the Trump Administration is working to repeal the Affordable Care Act and is targeting defunding programs that help women, especially low income women, such as Planned Parenthood, that served 3 million people in 2010 and provided 747,607 breast exams that same year. The UN Population Fund, which focuses on family planning and helps pregnant women and newborns, is also being cut; and

WHEREAS, millions of citizens will lose their health care and will be cast into stressful situations of uncertainty, delayed treatments and even no treatments because they cannot afford the medical treatments that are needed, therefore creating the death panels that Republicans have previously condemned.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Federation of Democratic Women shall oppose the dismantling of the Affordable Care Act, including the elimination of coverage for pre-existing conditions, access to affordable birth control and prenatal care, the defunding of Planned Parenthood, and the defunding of the UN Population Fund; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NFDW shall work to preserve and even increase the funding for all programs that protect women's reproductive and general health care.

Submitted by NFDW Legislative Committee May 2017. Adopted by NFDW June 10, 2017