



PRESS RELEASE

April 26, 2019

**Maine Family Planning Responds to
Nationwide Injunction on Domestic Gag Rule**

*Title X program will continue to operate consistent with longstanding rules;
MFP legal case moves forward*

AUGUSTA, Maine – In light of the nationwide injunction on the Gag Rule issued in Washington state, Maine Family Planning (MFP) has filed a notice to withdraw our motion for a preliminary injunction, which we argued this week in federal court. Because the nationwide injunction will protect Mainers from imminent implementation of the Rule, we have determined that there is no need for additional emergency relief in our case at this time. We maintain the strong views set forth in our motion, including that the Gag Rule is an unlawful violation of Title X and the U.S. Constitution, and we will continue to pursue vindication of those claims and to permanently invalidate the Gag Rule in our case going forward.

The injunction means MFP and Title X providers like us can continue to provide and speak openly to our patients about abortion care, consistent with longstanding program rules.

From George Hill, MFP president and CEO:

“MFP is relieved that the Domestic Gag Rule has been temporarily blocked. Along with our Title X allies nationwide, we’re breathing a sigh of relief today, knowing our robust network can continue to provide high quality, affordable, and evidence-based reproductive health care as it has done for almost 50 years.

The Gag Rule threatens access to essential health care services for low-income and rural Mainers, and that’s why we’re battling it in court – for our patients and our neighbors. Our fight continues.”

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