

Reagan family planning proposal draws criticism

By John Carlson
Of the Emerald

President Reagan's proposal to discontinue federal funding for family planning programs that provide abortion-related services could deprive Oregon groups of more than \$1.2 million annually.

Critics reacting to Reagan's proposal charge the new regulations would affect low-income women the most, depriving them of legal alternatives they should be aware of to make proper health-care decisions. The proposed changes would not just affect clinics that actually perform abortions, but agencies

that give abortion counseling or referrals.

He said any organization that has abortion-related services coupled with other family planning services would have to keep the programs physically and financially separated.

Marilyn Helton of Planned Parenthood of Lane County called the proposal "appalling," adding abortion is a right guaranteed by the U.S. Supreme Court. Saying the changes would be "discriminatory toward poor women," Helton added "women have that right to decide when to terminate a

pregnancy."

Current federal rules stipulate that funding recipients under the Title 10 program must inform patients of all the options, including abortion, when counseling pregnant women.

Reagan said he ordered the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to add new regulations specifying that "a program that does provide counseling and referral for abortion services as a method of family planning will not be eligible" for funding under Title 10.

Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore., said in a news release that the Reagan administration's at-

tempts to push such changes through Congress had failed, "so they're just doing this on their own hook in clear violation of the law in the hopes that some court will support them."

The new regulations will "cause havoc among family planning patients and agencies," according to Jesalee Fosterling, executive director of the Columbia-Willamette branch of Planned Parenthood in Portland.

Fosterling said by making the options known to women, they're not advocating abortion, but simply giving women the opportunity to decide for

themselves. "They believe women are moral and responsible decision makers, capable of making decisions regarding their reproductive lives," she said.

Fosterling said the language of the proposal will particularly affect many rural hospitals and clinics that provide family planning and abortion services on one site.

But David Gurule, family planning manager for the state Health Division, said that scenario exists only at the Takilma People's Clinic near Cave Junction in Southern Oregon.

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military forces from the region.

However, Reagan administration officials have said hostilities in the Persian Gulf are not imminent and also have hinted the War Powers Act is unconstitutional.

In light of the impending lawsuit, the resolution DeFazio introduced in May has been put on hold, Stier said.

"The resolution is not exactly dead but I think the lawsuit is going to make it academic

unless the lawsuit fails," he said.

According to DeFazio's press secretary Jim Middaugh, House leadership has been unwilling to take up War Powers legislation.

"The bottom line is that the president is pursuing a real dangerous policy in the Gulf and he is not consulting Congress. Congress has a constitutional responsibility to exercise oversight on foreign policy and

they're not living up to that. So what DeFazio and Lowry and the other plaintiffs are attempting to do is force the president to obey the law," Middaugh said.

"It's a very difficult judgement for many members of Congress to make. It's just a political hot potato. And a lot of members of Congress would rather not have to make that judgement," Stier added.



File photo

Rep. Peter DeFazio will join more than 100 congressmen in suing President Reagan. The action is the result of Reagan's policies in the Persian Gulf.

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involved. "That information will come at the end of an extensive investigation," said Birr.

"We handle fatal accidents with the same attention to detail as we do homicides.

"Right now we're trying to locate and talk with people who witnessed the accident, and we're not making any judgments on whether driver negligence caused the accident," said Birr.

Birr added that a mechanical "autopsy" on the car will be performed this Wednesday to determine if mechanical failure caused the accident.

Traffic was not especially heavy at the time of the acci-

dent, and that section of Franklin is not a frequent scene of accidents, explained Birr.

The westbound section of Franklin Boulevard stretching from Agate Street to East 11th Avenue was blocked for roughly six hours following the

accident. In the meantime police diverted traffic down Agate Street and through the University area. The westbound section of Franklin Boulevard was opened to traffic shortly after 2 p.m. when the Impala was towed from the scene.

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group can not use student fee money to advocate definitive positions on ballot measures before Oregon voters.

OSPIRG officials contend that the two groups' funds do not overlap. The State PIRG con-

ducts its activities, including support for ballot measures, not with student fees, but with fundraising and other monies, according to reports submitted to the Incidental Fee Committee and other University and State bodies.

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