



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PLANNED PARENTHOOD, WOMEN LEADERS, AND ADVOCACY GROUPS DENOUNCE
GOP GOVERNOR CANDIDATE BILL BRADY'S POSITIONS ON WOMEN'S ISSUES**

Chicago – Planned Parenthood Illinois Action (PPIA) stood with several political organizations, including Personal PAC, Progressive Action Project (the state PAC of Citizen Action/Illinois), and Chicago NOW to call out Senator Bill Brady's extreme record on issues of importance to the women of Illinois.

During his 17 years in the Illinois General Assembly, Senator Brady amassed a record that completely disregards and denigrates women.

"Since entering the General Assembly in 1993, Bill Brady has a 100 percent anti-choice and anti-family planning voting record. His record demonstrates that he is anti-woman, anti-choice, and his views are downright antediluvian," said Beth Kanter of PPIA.

In 2003 Senator Brady co-sponsored legislation that would have allowed insurance providers to offer plans that did not cover Pap smears, mammograms, minimum hospital stays for childbirth, and other essential reproductive health care services.

Senator Brady does not believe that abortion should be legal – even in the case of rape or incest. He has stated that he would use the Governor's office to further an anti-choice agenda by Executive Order.

Senator Brady voted against a bill - which became law in 2003 - that required any private insurance plan that covered prescription drugs to also cover contraceptives.

Three years later, Senator Brady co-sponsored legislation that would have allowed any pharmacy or pharmacist to refuse to fill any legal prescription if they were religiously or morally opposed.

Bill Brady would prohibit access to emergency contraception (EC). EC can prevent pregnancy for up to 72 hours after unprotected intercourse, and is considered the accepted standard of medical care for rape victims by the American Medical Association.

Senator Brady's extreme record against women expands beyond issues of reproductive health. Senator Brady voted against Stem Cell Research and the Family and Medical Leave Act. He introduced a constitutional amendment that would ban gay marriage and civil unions. And when it comes to pay equity, he believes that women don't necessarily deserve to make as much as men, but rather the marketplace should set the standard.

"The choice that Illinoisans make for governor in the upcoming election will have a profound impact on the direction of our state – and the lives of women. Illinois women cannot afford to have Bill Brady as governor of Illinois," said Kanter.

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