



## For Immediate Release:

*November 2, 2017  
Washington, DC*

### **Ascend Encourages the Reauthorization of Title V in Support of Sexual Risk Avoidance Education**

(Washington, DC) Ascend applauds the outstanding work of the House Energy and Commerce Committee for the CHAMPIONING HEALTHY KIDS ACT, which includes the reauthorization of Title V, the state block grant which provides funding for Sexual Risk Avoidance education. It is encouraging to see that Members of Congress understand the importance of this valuable program. The continuation of this funding allows over one million students across the country to receive the information and skills they need to avoid sexual risk while being empowered to realize their future goals and dreams. “We are pleased that this bill recognizes and supports the growing consensus among parents, schools, legislators and medical professionals that our youth need and deserve an approach to sex education that helps them achieve optimal health,” stated Mary Anne Mosack, Executive Director of Ascend.

The CHAMPIONING HEALTHY KIDS ACT is well named as it champions youth to achieve health and well being by learning to make positive choices about sex. And, amazingly, the CDC tells us that youth are making those good choices and having less sex than they did 25 years ago. We need to reinforce this positive trend among teens and the reauthorization of Title V is critical to that end. We encourage all congressional members to approve this important legislation and we thank committee chairman, Greg Walden (R-Oregon), subcommittee chairman, Michael Burgess and Rep. Bill Flores (R-TX) for their diligent leadership in supporting sexual risk avoidance education for America's youth.

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Ascend champions youth to make healthy decisions in relationships and life by promoting well being through a primary prevention strategy, and as a national membership and advocacy organization that serves, leads, represents and equips the Sexual Risk Avoidance field.