



Family Planning Advocates of NYS
17 Elk Street
Albany, New York 12207-1002
Phone: (518)436-8408
Fax: (518)436-0004
Website: www.fpaofnys.org

**SENATOR CLINTON STANDS UP FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH
AS THE FDA CONTINUES DELAY TACTICS ON PLAN B**

Statement By JoAnn M. Smith

President and CEO, Family Planning Advocates of New York State

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“Every day the Bush Administration refuses to make a decision on Plan B, more women are needlessly faced with the fear of unintended pregnancy.

“We’ve seen delay after delay, and we’re tired of it. The FDA needs to do its job and start making decisions based on science and best practices.

“The Agency has delayed this decision for years, even though its own scientific committees overwhelmingly voted to make Plan B available over the counter.

“Dr. Susan Wood and other FDA officials have resigned in protest over the FDA’s handling of Plan B. We are grateful for their bravery and join them in standing up for women across this nation who need and deserve access to contraception.

“We thank Senator Hillary Clinton, along with Senator Patty Murray, for pushing the FDA to make a decision on this critical issue. If Dr. von Eschenbach cannot give us a “yes” or “no” answer, he surely does not deserve a vote on his nomination.”

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