



Students for Choice Lobby Day 2011

On April 13, 2011, Students for Choice members came to Lansing for our second annual Students for Choice Lobby Day. Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan organized the event as a way for students to follow up the past semester of hard work campaigning for Planned Parenthood.

Students from the University of Michigan Project Community class, Students for Choice at the University of Michigan, Michigan State University Vox: Students for Choice, Central Michigan State University Students for Choice, Grand Valley State University, and JET gathered in the Capitol Building, where they were briefed by Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan staff on the current status of reproductive health care laws in Michigan. The students were also given tips on the best way to lobby and talk about the issues with legislators that are both supportive of our issues and not supportive of our issues.

Students delivered a letter from Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan

Executive Director Sarah Scranton to the legislators, urging them to support Planned Parenthood's Prevention First legislative package along with information on Prevention First, which seeks to expand family planning services, pass contraceptive equity laws, make age-appropriate and medically accurate abstinence plus sexual education available to all students, and mandate that

emergency contraception be available in all emergency rooms. In addition, legislators received petition cards signed by constituents in their districts from our Families Deserve Better campaign.

The Democratic Leader in the House of Representatives, Rep. Rick Hammel, and the Senate Minority Leader, Sen. Gretchen Whitmer, both came, spoke to us about the importance of our work, and answered questions. Senator Whitmer reminded us that you cannot move Michigan forward if you leave women behind. It was a great way to end an encouraging day! ■



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