

Health Information Compliance Alert

Enforcement News: AMA Gets in on States' Lawsuit Against Feds Over Title X Gag Rule

On Feb. 22, HHS issued a final rule in the Federal Register that upends the Title X family planning program, including cuts to funding and an imposed gag order on Title X physicians.

Since the announcement, 21 state attorneys general have filed lawsuits against the federal government, challenging the rule and providing evidence that the rule violates patients' rights and impedes the work of physicians across the nation.

The American Medical Association (AMA) has joined the states to wage legal battle against the Trump Administration and the Title X ruling.

"This rule interferes with and imposes restrictions on the patient-physician relationship. For all intents and purposes, it imposes a gag rule on what information physicians can provide to their patients," stresses **Barbara L. McAneny, MD**, AMA president in a statement on the rule. "The patient-physician relationship relies on trust, open conversation and informed decision making and the government should not be telling physicians what they can and cannot say to their patients."

Read the AMA filing at www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2019-03/oregon-titlex-suit.pdf.

Resource: Review the HHS guidance on the five major provisions of the Title X changes at www.hhs.gov/opa/title-x-family-planning/about-title-x-grants/statutes-and-regulations/index.html.