

## **Attorney General Jeff Landry Makes Another Move in Major Louisiana Policy Change**

### **Attorney General Jeff Landry Asserts his Constitutional Right and Responsibility to Proceed Over All Legal Matters in the State**

*General Landry Assumes Control of Appeal to Protect State Medicaid Program*

BATON ROUGE, LA – Today, Attorney General Jeff Landry instructed the State’s counsel to proceed with the appeal of Kathy Kliebert, Secretary, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals v. Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast, Inc.; Jane Doe #1; Jane Doe #2; and Jane Doe #3 and to respectfully deny Planned Parenthood’s request for an extension of the briefing delays. **As Attorney General, Landry has the Constitutional authority and duty to defend all legal issues and cases in State Government.**

“As I decide whether and how to proceed in all of the State’s legal actions begun under previous Governors and Attorneys General, I am making my decisions based on the best interest of Louisiana’s people,” said General Landry. “Today, in this particular case, it is in the best interest of our State’s citizens to protect the integrity of our Medicaid program by pursuing this appeal.”

“Justice is blind; no one, especially not Planned Parenthood, is above the law,” said General Landry. “Planned Parenthood should not receive special treatment. The State will treat them in the same manner as we do all other Medicaid providers.

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Article 4, Section 8 of the Louisiana Constitution declares the Attorney General as chief legal officer of the state:

*As necessary for the assertion or protection of any right or interest of the state, the attorney general shall have authority (1) to institute, prosecute, or intervene in any civil action or proceeding; (2) upon the written request of a district attorney, to advise and assist in the prosecution of any criminal case; and (3) for cause, when authorized by the court which would have original jurisdiction and subject to judicial review, (a) to institute, prosecute, or intervene in any criminal action or proceeding, or (b) to supersede any attorney representing the state in any civil or criminal action.*

*The attorney general shall exercise other powers and perform other duties authorized by this constitution or by law.*