

April XX, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education and Related Agencies
2358-B Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, Education and Related Agencies
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

As you begin to work on the Fiscal Year 2022 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS) Appropriations bill, we urge you to include language to provide protections for our most vulnerable population, the unborn. President Biden has made it clear his administration will support the removal of widely popular federal pro-life protections. With this in mind, we ask you to include pro-life language in the FY 2022 LHHS bill, which strengthens conscience protections for health care providers, maintains the integrity of our nation's vital medical research, and ends taxpayer subsidies for Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc. and their affiliates.

First, to protect the First Amendment rights of all Americans we ask that you include conscience protection language in the FY 2022 LHHS bill. Being an American has always meant experiencing the freedom to live by the dictates of one's deeply held beliefs at home, work, and in public. Conscience protection provisions are necessary to ensure federal funds cannot be used to force health care providers to participate in abortion, in violation of their consciences. This modest provision would ensure that the government does not penalize health care providers for practicing medicine and providing patient care with a clear conscience.

Next, we respectfully request any FY 2022 funding afforded to HHS be conditioned on the requirement that no funds be made available for research on fetal tissue obtained from an induced abortion. In FY 2020, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) received \$116 million in taxpayer dollars directed toward fetal tissue research. We understand that the NIH provides a portion of its annual appropriations to fund basic biology research using human fetal tissue. The NIH, however, fails to provide a distinction between ethically derived fetal tissue and tissue, including baby body parts, derived from an elective abortion. Our request will ensure federally funded research does not enable the abortion industry to profit from the harvesting and trafficking of innocent, human lives.

Finally, we respectfully ask you to end taxpayer financing of abortion businesses such as Planned Parenthood. Planned Parenthood Federation of America's 2019-2020 annual report revealed they received \$618.1 million taxpayer dollars in one year while performing 354,871 abortions. Over the past 15 years, Planned Parenthood's share of the national abortion market has continued to increase. Currently, Planned Parenthood accounts for 40% of all abortions in the

nation, up from 30% in 2005. Meanwhile, multiple Congressional investigations and referrals to the Department of Justice (DOJ) led the DOJ to open an investigation into this organization. We firmly believe that organizations that provide both comprehensive health care and respect all life—both the born and the unborn— are the best equipped to offer effective health care services to those in need.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these requests and your continued support for life. Should you need any further information, do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,

Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress

Ann Wagner
Member of Congress