

BOB GOODLATTE, Virginia
CHAIRMAN

F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR., Wisconsin
LAMAR S. SMITH, Texas
STEVE CHABOT, Ohio
DARRELL E. ISSA, California
J. RANDY FORBES, Virginia
STEVE KING, Iowa
TRENT FRANKS, Arizona
LOUIE GOHMERT, Texas
JIM JORDAN, Ohio
TED POE, Texas
JASON CHAFFETZ, Utah
TOM MARINO, Pennsylvania
TREY GOWDY, South Carolina
RAÚL R. LABRADOR, Idaho
BLAKE FARENTHOLD, Texas
DOUG COLLINS, Georgia
RON DeSANTIS, Florida
MIMI WALTERS, California
KEN BUCK, Colorado
JOHN RATCLIFFE, Texas
DAVE TROTT, Michigan
MIKE BISHOP, Michigan

JOHN CONYERS, JR., Michigan
RANKING MEMBER

JERROLD NADLER, New York
ZOE LOFGREN, California
SHEILA JACKSON LEE, Texas
STEVE COHEN, Tennessee
HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR., Georgia
PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, Puerto Rico
JUDY CHU, California
TED DEUTCH, Florida
LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ, Illinois
KAREN BASS, California
CEDRIC L. RICHMOND, Louisiana
SUZAN K. DeBENE, Washington
HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES, New York
DAVID CICILLINE, Rhode Island
SCOTT PETERS, California

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-3951

<http://www.house.gov/judiciary>

July 17, 2015

The Honorable Loretta Lynch
Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Lynch:

In a recently released video Planned Parenthood Federation of America's Senior Director of Medical Services, Dr. Deborah Nucatola, describes actions taken during abortions to produce intact organs for fetal tissue brokers.

In the course of the conversation she references several actions that abortionists can take to produce the requested organs. These include using graspers to crush the unborn child above and below the thorax so that organs such as the liver, heart and lungs are not damaged.

However, she notes that an intact head is the hardest to deliver. To address this problem, she says "some people will actually try to change the presentation so it's not vertex" (so the baby is breech instead of head first). She goes on to explain that "if you do it starting from the breech presentation, there's dilation that happens as the case goes on, and often the last, you can evacuate an intact calvarium [head] at the end."

When discussing the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban and how abortionists take the law into consideration, Nucatola goes on to say "the federal abortion ban is a law, and laws are up to interpretation. So there are some people who interpret it as intent. So if I say on Day One I do not intend to do this, what ultimately happens doesn't matter. Because I didn't intend to do this on Day One so I'm complying with the law."

Both the references to the process of breech conversion and the interpretation of intent raise serious questions about whether abortionists and particularly abortionists in the Planned Parenthood organization are complying with the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act.

With this in mind, please provide a summary of all actions your Department has taken to ensure compliance with the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act. Further, we urge you to act swiftly

to launch an investigation into any potential violations of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of which your Department has become aware, or does become aware, including potential violations by Planned Parenthood.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this request. Please have your staff respond to John Coleman at (202) 225-2825 no later than July 31, 2015.

Sincerely,



Bob Goodlatte
Chairman
House Committee on the Judiciary



Trent Franks
Chairman, House Subcommittee on the
Constitution and Civil Justice

cc: John Conyers, Jr.
Ranking Member
House Committee on the Judiciary