

For Immediate Release:

September 30, 2015

Sen. Thad Cochran
United States Senate
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-2402

Sen. Roger Wicker
United States Senate
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Congressman Gregg Harper
307 Cannon H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Steven Palazzo
331 Cannon H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Trent Kelly
1427 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Cochran, Senator Wicker, Representatives Harper, Palazzo, and Kelly:

It is with great urgency that we write to you on the important matter of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

I am sure you have seen the disturbing reports that Planned Parenthood has been selling the tissue of unborn babies for profit. As firm believers in the sanctity of life, which begins at conception, we are aghast at these developments.

It is a moral imperative that Republicans in Congress do everything within their power to investigate these reports and take whatever actions feasible to stop the harvesting of the body parts of babies.

More pressingly, the U.S. House and U.S. Senate must act immediately to fully defund Planned Parenthood. No member of the Mississippi delegation to the U.S. Congress should support any funding resolution or mechanism -- an appropriations bill, an omnibus package, a continuing resolution, or otherwise -- that contains any funding for Planned Parenthood, including mandatory funding streams.

In light of Speaker Boehner's apparent persistence in funding Planned Parenthood with U.S. taxpayer funds, we the undersigned call on Mississippi's Congressional delegation, including Senators Wicker and Cochran, and Representatives Trent Kelly, Gregg Harper, and Stephen Palazzo, to vote NO on any Continuing Resolution that includes funding for Planned Parenthood.

The Republican-led House of Representatives has the "power of the purse" according to the Constitution of the United States. It is our fervent hope that Congress will finally stand up and exercise that power in this matter.

These activities by Planned Parenthood cannot go unanswered by Congress. We look forward to your response and prompt attention to this urgent funding problem.

Respectfully,

Dana Criswell
Dana Criswell
Representative-elect
District 6

Steve Hopkins
Steve Hopkins
Representative elect
District 7

Robert Foster
Robert Foster
Representative elect
District 28

Dan Eubanks
Dan Eubanks
Republican Nominee
District 25

Bill Kinkeade
Representative
Dist 52

Jeff Hale
Representative-Elect
MS District 24

Ashley Henley
Republican Nominee
MS House District 40