Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0301

July 24, 2015

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker of the House
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker,

We write to respectfully request that the House consider legislation to defund Planned Parenthood the week of July 27, 2015.

Over the last two weeks, the Center for Medical Progress released deeply disturbing undercover footage of Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) senior executives cavalierly describing PPFA's grotesque practice of harvesting and selling fetal tissue and specimens from aborted children. PPFA executives describe how they manipulate abortions to secure more valuable organ specimens, haggle over price, and participate in the trafficking of unborn baby body parts. This is not a bazaar and children are not property to be bought and sold.

We are profoundly troubled by these revelations, Mr. Speaker, and would ask that the House take immediate action to eliminate in totality federal taxpayer dollars for PPFA. Accountability is crucial to the American people and we are grateful for the House Judiciary Committee's and the House Energy and Commerce Committee's investigations of Planned Parenthood. Even so, we think it is urgent to bring legislation to the floor before the August district work period that would halt federal resources to America's primary abortion provider.

The Hyde amendment is long-standing federal policy prohibiting the use of taxpayer dollars from being used to subsidize abortions. Members of this body are also on record, even as recent as last week, to preclude abortion providers, like Planned Parenthood, from receiving pass-through federal dollars. We are also pleased that this year's Committee mark of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill eliminates Title X funding, a main source of revenue for abortion providers. We ask that the House take the next step and eliminate any and all federal dollars for PPFA.

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Thank you for attention to this request and for your unwavering support for the lives of the unborn.

Sincerely,

John Fleming, M.D.
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Trent Franks
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Bruce Westerman
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

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