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Congress of the United States
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May 12, 1983

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Sister Mary Carl
1200 West Washington
Springfield, Illinois 62704

Dear Sister Carl


Thank you for your recent communication detailing your views and concerns on the issue of abortion.

The abortion issue is very difficult because of the strongly held beliefs of those who favor it and those who oppose it. It is extraordinarily challenging for our governmental process to deal effectively with such a divisive matter.

I have studied the issue in depth and favor the Eagleton Amendment which states clearly that the right to abortion is not guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. The effect of this Amendment will be to return us to the legal environment which existed before Roe v. Wade in 1973. States would be allowed to regulate the practice of abortion under their power to legislate in areas of health and safety.

Again, thank you for sharing your views. If I can be of further assistance on this or any other matter, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Richard J. Durbin
Member of Congress

RJD/rs