

September 29, 2015

(202) 626-8820

Dear Member of Congress:

The National Right to Life Committee (NRLC), the federation of state right-to-life organizations, urges you to actively work for inclusion of language to defund Planned Parenthood in the reconciliation package that is now being assembled for consideration by the House of Representatives in the near future.

Other measures to defund Planned Parenthood have been blocked by filibuster in the Senate. The reconciliation process provides a legislative path that avoids the filibuster. NRLC cannot support a reconciliation bill that does not include such language.

According to a Government Accountability Office report released March 20, 2015, PPFA received \$344.5 million in federal funds over three fiscal years (2010-2012), and another \$1.2 billion in funding from Medicaid (a combination of state and federal funds), for a three-year total of \$1.5 billion from federal programs.

Over one-third of all abortions in the U.S. are performed at PPFA-affiliated facilities – indeed, one senior Planned Parenthood official boasted in 2014, “We have 40 percent of the [abortion] market in the whole country.” PPFA requires every affiliate to provide abortions. Longstanding objections to the massive federal funding of PPFA have been reinforced by recent widely publicized undercover videos, which illuminate involvement by some PPFA affiliates and executives in the harvesting and selling of baby body parts. For additional up-to-date information on the extent of Planned Parenthood’s involvement in abortion, see: www.nrlc.org/communications/ppfamediabackground/

We understand that at least one advocacy group, despite its ostensible devotion to defunding Planned Parenthood, is urging that the reconciliation bill should be employed solely for other purposes. There can be no justification for following such counsel. Please be advised that National Right to Life would likely oppose the Rule on any reconciliation bill lacking adequate language to defund Planned Parenthood – regardless of what else the bill contains -- and might well be compelled to oppose *passage* as well.

Sincerely,



Carol Tobias
President



David N. O'Steen, Ph.D
Executive Director



Douglas D. Johnson
Legislative Director