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Congressman Scott Garrett's Statement on the Schiavo Act

Legislation will allow Federal Courts to review case of Terri Schiavo

WASHINGTON, DC – "I believe there are serious questions about Terri Schiavo's medical condition that warrant Congressional intervention to try and prevent her forced starvation. It is illegal in Florida to starve a dog to death, yet that is exactly what Ms. Schiavo's husband wants us to allow happen to his disabled wife, and the court system so far has failed to ensure her Constitutionally guaranteed right to life.

"We all have an interest in seeing to it that no one's life is unjustly taken from them, particularly if it could be against their will, and especially in such a cruel manner as starvation. The medical community is in disagreement about her condition and the possible positive effects of the physical therapy her husband, as her guardian, has so far neglected to provide her, even though he was awarded close to a million dollars to provide for her long-term care and rehabilitation.

"Congress should act to preserve life, and it has. Today, the U.S. Senate approved the legislation by unanimous consent. Tonight, 202 members of the House of Representatives, including me, returned to Washington to support and pass the Schiavo Act."

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