

BOB GOODLATTE, Virginia  
CHAIRMAN

F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR., Wisconsin  
LAMAR S. SMITH, Texas  
STEVE CHABOT, Ohio  
DARRELL E. ISSA, California  
J. RANDY FORBES, Virginia  
STEVE KING, Iowa  
TRENT FRANKS, Arizona  
LOUIE GOHMERT, Texas  
JIM JORDAN, Ohio  
TED POE, Texas  
JASON CHAFFETZ, Utah  
TOM MARINO, Pennsylvania  
TREY GOWDY, South Carolina  
RAUL R. LABRADOR, Idaho  
BLAKE FARENTHOLD, Texas  
DOUG COLLINS, Georgia  
RON DeSANTIS, Florida  
MIMI WALTERS, California  
KEN BUCK, Colorado  
JOHN RATCLIFFE, Texas  
DAVE TROTT, Michigan  
MIKE BISHOP, Michigan

JOHN CONYERS, JR., Michigan  
RANKING MEMBER

JERROLD NADLER, New York  
ZOE LOFGREN, California  
SHEILA JACKSON LEE, Texas  
STEVE COHEN, Tennessee  
HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR., Georgia  
PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, Puerto Rico  
JUDY CHU, California  
TED DEUTCH, Florida  
LUIS V. GUTIERREZ, Illinois  
KAREN BASS, California  
CEDRIC L. RICHMOND, Louisiana  
SUZAN K. DELBENE, Washington  
HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES, New York  
DAVID CICILLINE, Rhode Island  
SCOTT PETERS, California

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-3951

<http://www.house.gov/judiciary>

August 17, 2015

The Honorable Loretta Lynch  
Attorney General  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Lynch:

The House Judiciary Committee has launched an investigation into whether Planned Parenthood abortion practitioners altered procedures in order to harvest the organs and body parts of aborted children. "I'd say a lot of people want liver," an executive from Planned Parenthood stated in a video released on July 15, 2015. "And for that reason, most providers will do this case under ultrasound guidance, so they'll know where they're putting their forceps." She further stated: "We've been very good at getting heart, lung, liver, because we know that so I'm not gonna crush that part, I'm gonna basically crush below, I'm gonna crush above, and I'm gonna see if I can get it all intact."

New evidence suggests that this disturbing practice of altering the procedure is more than an isolated instance. In a recent video released on July 21, 2015, yet another Planned Parenthood executive stated:

Let me explain to you a little bit of a problem, which may not be a big problem, if our usual technique is suction at 10 to 12 weeks and we switch to using an IPAS [manual vacuum aspirator] or something with less suction or to increase the odds that it will come out as an intact specimen, then we're kind of violating the protocol that says to the patient, "We're not doing anything different in our care of you." Now to me, that's kind of a specious little argument and I wouldn't object to asking Ian, who's our surgeon who does the cases, to use an IPAS at that gestational age in order to increase the odds that he's going to get an intact specimen.

Later in the video, when asked if she would be happy with the dollar amount per specimen suggested by the undercover investigative journalist, the Planned Parenthood executive

stated: "Well, let me find out from other affiliates in California [what they] are getting and if they're getting more, then we can discuss it then." She continued, "But, you know, the money is not the important thing, but it has to be big enough that it's worthwhile for me."

At least three federal laws may be implicated by this video: 42 U.S.C. § 274e, which states that "[i]t shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly acquire, receive, or otherwise transfer any human organ for valuable consideration for use in human transplantation if the transfer affects interstate commerce"; 42 U.S.C. § 289g, which states that "[i]t shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly acquire, receive, or otherwise transfer any human fetal tissue for valuable consideration if the transfer affects interstate commerce"; and 18 U.S.C. § 1531, which prohibits partial-birth abortions.

We write regarding our interest in understanding the history of the enforcement of these laws at the Department of Justice. Please provide the Committee with a copy of the complaint in every case filed by the Department in which a violation of 42 U.S.C. § 274e, 42 U.S.C. § 289g, or 18 U.S.C. § 1531, and any related federal laws, is alleged.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this request. Please have your staff respond to John Coleman at (202) 225-2825 no later than August 31, 2015.

Sincerely,



Bob Goodlatte  
Chairman  
House Committee on the Judiciary



Trent Franks  
Chairman, House Subcommittee on the  
Constitution and Civil Justice