

BRAD R. WENSTRUP
2ND DISTRICT OHIO

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS'
AFFAIRS

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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March 15, 2016

Chairman Robert Aderholt
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations
Rayburn House Office Building 2362-A
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Aderholt,

Thank you for your leadership in including your embryo protection provision in last year's Agriculture Appropriations bill.

As you know, your provision prevents funding from being used by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to approve applications in which a human embryo is intentionally created or modified to include a heritable genetic modification. As you draft the Fiscal Year 2017 Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you retain as bill text the pro-life limitation provision related to protecting human embryos, included in Section 749 the General Provisions of Title VII of Division A of the FY16 omnibus.

The enactment of your provision proved to be particularly timely after the Institute of Medicine (IOM) issued a [report](#) in February 2016 recommending that the FDA approve "3-parent" embryo technology for experiments. "3-parent" embryos represent one kind of heritable genetic modification. Advocates for the technology argue that it is a way to create children who do not carry mitochondrial disease, a genetic disorder inherited through the mother.

As you well know, a new technology called CRISPR has made it easier for scientists to genetically manipulate human embryos and reproductive cells (known as germ cells). They can potentially make genetic changes to DNA that are passed down to future generations with unknown and possible unintended consequences.

We all share the desire to prevent illness and suffering, but the proposed techniques do not treat existing individuals. Instead, they create new human life with manipulated genetic composition. They treat new individuals as experiments, creating serious safety concerns. In many cases, the experiments even destroy the human embryos.

Fortunately, the provision has prevented the FDA from approving the creation of “3-parent” embryos and other technologies that genetically manipulate human embryos. We believe that it is crucial to continue to extend this protection to the youngest members of the human family. We should wisely continue to keep this prohibition in place in FY17.

Thank you for your foresight and commitment to protecting this important life-affirming policy.

Sincerely,



Brad Wenstrup
Member of Congress



Trent Franks
Member of Congress



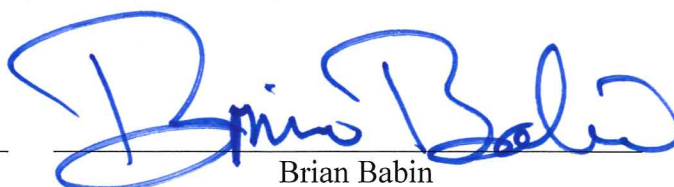
Earl L. “Buddy” Carter
Member of Congress



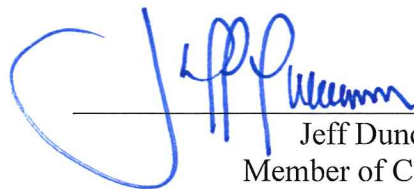
Tim Huelskamp
Member of Congress



Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress



Brian Babin
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



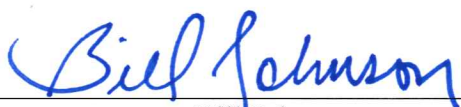
Steve King
Member of Congress



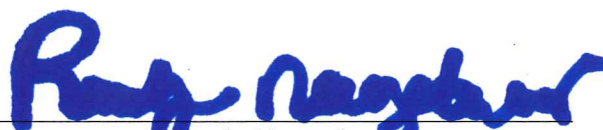
Pete Olson
Member of Congress



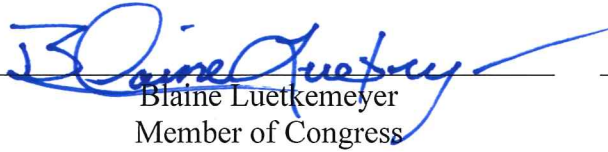
Rob Bishop
Member of Congress



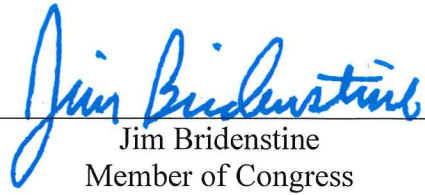
Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



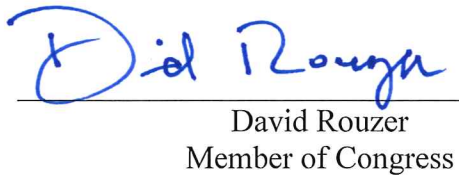
Randy Neugebauer
Member of Congress



Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress



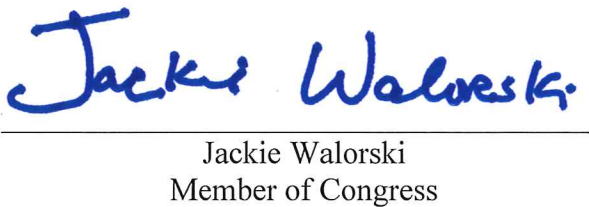
Jim Bridenstine
Member of Congress



David Rouzer
Member of Congress



John Ratcliffe
Member of Congress



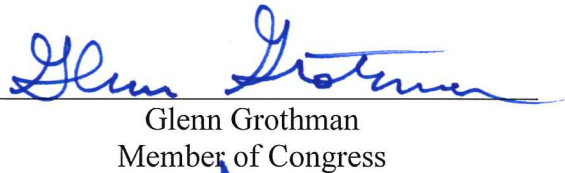
Jackie Walorski
Member of Congress



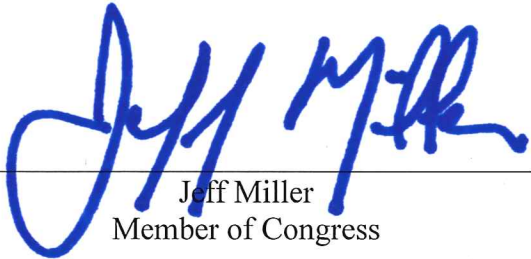
Chris Smith
Member of Congress



Paul Gosar
Member of Congress



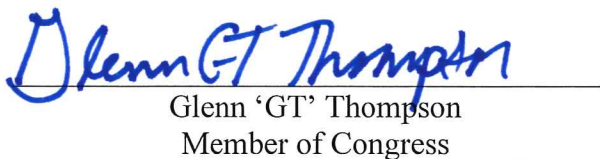
Glenn Grothman
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Jeff Miller
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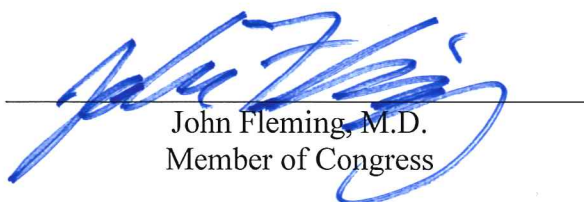
Trent Kelly
Member of Congress



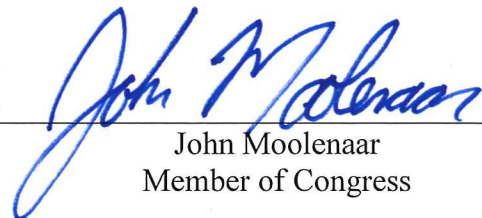
Glenn 'GT' Thompson
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Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress



John Fleming, M.D.
Member of Congress



John Moolenaar
Member of Congress



Mark Walker
Member of Congress



Ann Wagner
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Mike Kelly
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Doug Lamborn
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Rick Crawford
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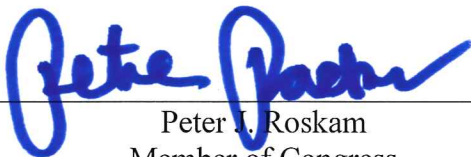
Tim Murphy
Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress



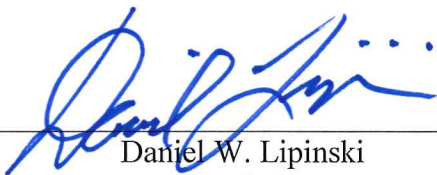
J. Randy Forbes
Member of Congress



Peter J. Roskam
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Sam Johnson
Member of Congress



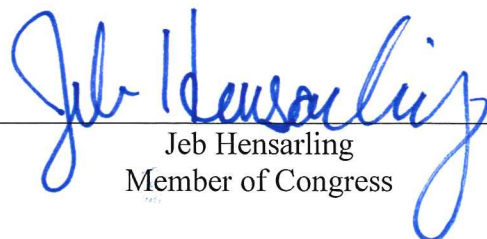
Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress



Bill Flores
Member of Congress



Ralph Abraham, MD
Member of Congress



Jeb Hensarling
Member of Congress



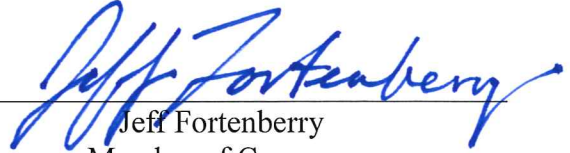
Todd Young
Member of Congress



Tom Graves
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Austin Scott
Member of Congress



Jeff Fortenberry
Member of Congress



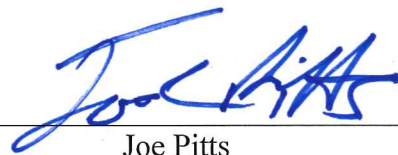
Rob Woodall
Member of Congress



Kevin Cramer
Member of Congress



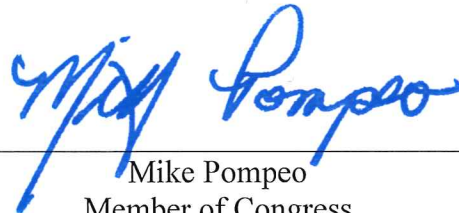
Steve Russell
Member of Congress



Joe Pitts
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Keith Rothfus
Member of Congress



Mike Pompeo
Member of Congress



Randy Hultgren
Member of Congress



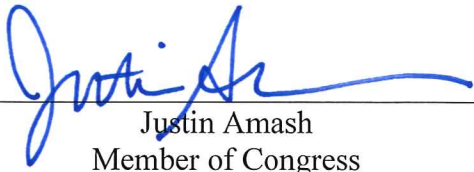
Bruce Westerman
Member of Congress



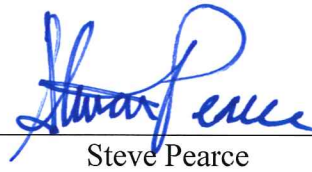
Joe Barton
Member of Congress



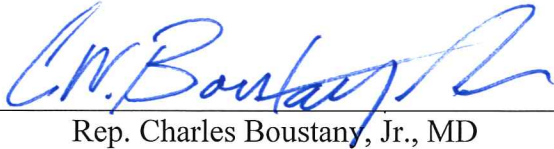
Mike D. Rogers
Member of Congress



Justin Amash
Member of Congress



Steve Pearce
Member of Congress



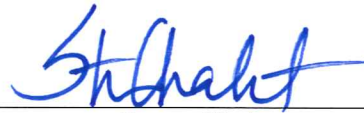
Rep. Charles Boustany, Jr., MD
Member of Congress



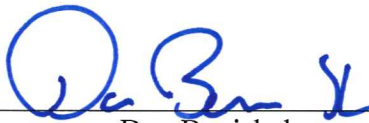
Jason Chaffetz
Member of Congress



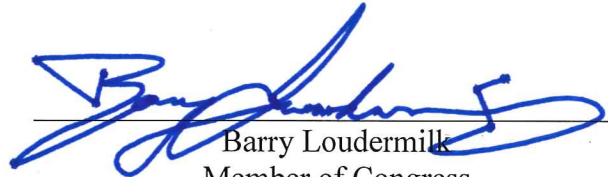
Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



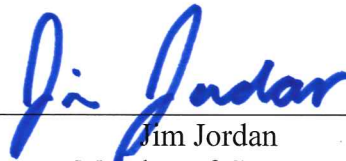
Dan Benishek
Member of Congress



Barry Loudermilk
Member of Congress



Bob Goodlatte
Member of Congress



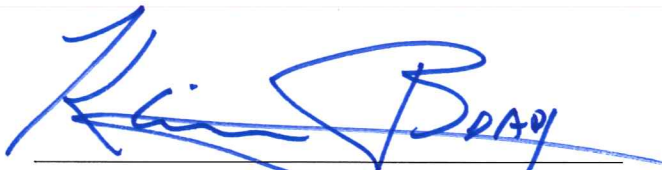
Jim Jordan
Member of Congress



Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress



Gus Bilirakis
Member of Congress



Kevin Brady
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