ETHICS & RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION
OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 17, 2015

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I write to express our strong support for the Defund Planned Parenthood Act of 2015 (H.R. 3134), which would place a one-year moratorium on federally funding Planned Parenthood Federation of America and its affiliates while Congress conducts a full investigation into the organization's practices. The Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission urges Congress to pass this measure without delay.

As you know, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the nation's largest abortion provider, performed more than 327,000 abortions last year alone and receives more than a half-billion dollars in federal and state money annually. This money comes out of the pockets of millions of Americans, Southern Baptists among them, who stridently oppose the taking of innocent unborn human lives.

In recent weeks, revelations of the abortion giant selling unborn baby body parts have come to light through a series of undercover videos. Millions of Americans have watched in horror as Planned Parenthood associates cavalierly discuss dollar amounts for legs and arms and organs. We shrink back, aghast, at the sight of Planned Parenthood doctors and nurses, recorded on camera, suggesting asking prices for limbs of dismembered unborn babies. Those videos ought to shock the consciences of all of us.

As we ultimately work toward the day when the heinous practice of abortion is outlawed altogether, we call on the government to take the minimal step of cutting off funding to Planned Parenthood for one year while conducting a full-scale investigation into the organization's activities.

I urge Congress to respect the consciences of millions of taxpayers and to protect untold numbers of vulnerable unborn babies by approving the Defund Planned Parenthood Act of 2015, led by Representative Diane Black. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for your attention to our concerns and your ongoing commitment to protecting life in the womb.

Sincerely,

Russell Moore, Ph.D.
President

901 COMMERCE STREET SUITE 550 NASHVILLE, TN 37203 | 505 SECOND STREET, N.E. WASHINGTON, DC 20002 | WWW.ERLC.COM