

ROBERT E. LATTA
5TH DISTRICT, OHIO

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND THE ECONOMY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3505

May 13, 2013

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The Honorable Mike DeWine
Ohio Attorney General
30 E. Broad St., 14th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Attorney General DeWine,

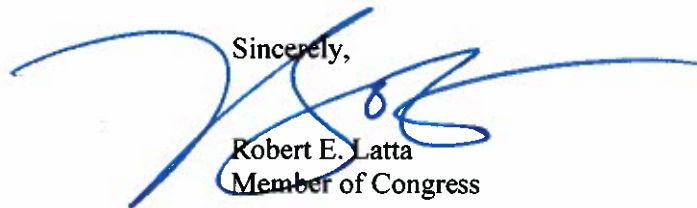
I am sure you are aware of the verdict today in the trial of Kermit Gosnell, the Philadelphia abortion doctor, who was found guilty on three of the four first-degree murder charges he faced. Gosnell was found guilty of murdering three unnamed infants born alive after botched abortions, in addition to his conviction on over 200 lesser crimes ranging from infanticide to running a corrupt organization. Tragically, we do not know for sure how many born alive infants suffered the same cruel fate.

The Grand Jury report is a revolting revelation of what went on in Gosnell's "House of Horrors." However, Gosnell's illegal actions and the conditions of his facility went undetected for decades, in part due to political pressure. In response, the House Judiciary, and Energy and Commerce Committees have launched an investigation into whether such a regulatory collapse is occurring in other states across the country.

I would like to draw your attention to the enclosed letter from Judiciary Chairman Bob Goodlatte (R-VA), and the Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice Trent Franks (R-AZ). As the letter states, "we are seeking to find out if state and local governments are being stymied in their efforts to protect the civil rights of newborns and their mothers by legal or financial obstacles that are within the federal government's power to address."

I appreciate your defense of Ohio's many laws that were written and passed into law with the intention of protecting life. Your assistance will be extremely helpful with Chairman Goodlatte's investigation, and I thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress

REL/bag
Enclosure

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Theodore E. Wymyslo, M.D.
Director, Ohio Department of Health
246 N. High St.,
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Dr. Wymyslo,

I am sure you are aware of the verdict today in the trial of Kermit Gosnell, the Philadelphia abortion doctor, who was found guilty on three of the four first-degree murder charges he faced. Gosnell was found guilty of murdering three unnamed infants born alive after botched abortions, in addition to his conviction on over 200 lesser crimes ranging from infanticide to running a corrupt organization. Tragically, we do not know for sure how many born alive infants suffered the same cruel fate.

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As a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I would like to draw your attention to the enclosed letter from Energy and Commerce Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI), Vice Chairman Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), Chairman Emeritus Joe Barton (R-TX), Health Subcommittee Chairman Joe Pitts (R-PA), Oversight and Investigations Chairman Tim Murphy (R-PA), and Vice Chairman of the Oversight and Investigations and Health Subcommittees Michael C. Burgess, M.D. (R-TX). The letter requests information on the regulation and inspection of health clinics that provide abortions, "in order for the Committee to better understand how states regulate and monitor abortion clinics, and protect the health and safety of women."

The defense of human life and the promotion of women's health are extremely important, and the state of Ohio has recognized this with the passage of a late-term abortion ban, partial-birth abortion ban, and parental involvement and informed consent laws, among others. Your assistance will be extremely helpful with Chairman Upton's investigation, and I thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress

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