

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

March 10, 2022

The Honorable Xavier Becerra  
Secretary of Health and Human Services  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Ave, SW  
Washington, DC 20201

Secretary Becerra:

We write to express our serious concerns regarding the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) formation of the Task Force on Reproductive Healthcare Access (Task Force).

On the 49th anniversary of the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision, your Department announced the formation of a new Task Force that has labeled terminating the lives of unborn children to be "*essential sexual and reproductive health care*."<sup>1</sup> The Task Force was established to promote abortion in response to pro-life laws passed by states in 2021 and to increase abortions in foreign countries.

The Task Force formalizes the pro-abortion advocacy that has already been promoted through HHS. To name just a few examples, HHS requires Title X grantees to offer abortion counseling and referrals to pregnant clients and has weakened federal safety regulations for the chemical abortion pill mifepristone.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, HHS issued a grant of \$6.6 million to abortion businesses in seven states – with a total of \$1,408,536 concentrated in Texas.<sup>3</sup> This grant was a direct response to Texas Law SB 8, legislation offered by state legislatures to protect unborn lives.

We adamantly disagree with your premise – abortion is not health care. Abortion robs a person of health and life itself. Since 1973, 63 million innocent lives have been lost to abortion.<sup>4</sup> Women deserve better than abortion. They deserve the support they need to care for their babies and themselves.

Recent polling shows that a majority of Americans are opposed to using tax dollars to pay for a woman's abortion.<sup>5</sup> In addition, 73 percent of Americans oppose using their tax dollars to pay for abortions in other countries, as well.<sup>5</sup> The taxpayer dollars that fund HHS should be focused on promoting the highest quality of health information and care to all individuals, both born and unborn. They should not be used to promote a pro-abortion agenda in a shameless attempt to

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/01/21/fact-sheet-hhs-reproductive-healthcare-access-task-force.html>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field\\_document/fda\\_letter\\_to\\_chelius.pdf](https://www.aclu.org/sites/default/files/field_document/fda_letter_to_chelius.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2022/01/21/hhs-awards-6.6-million-address-increased-need-for-title-x-family-planning-services.html>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.nrlc.org/uploads/communications/stateofabortion2022.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/communications/marist-polling-slide-deck2022.pdf>

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

override the pro-life legislation that is being promoted in the states and defended in countries around the world.

The American people deserve to learn more about this Task Force. We ask for your detailed responses to the following questions by May 9, 2022:

1. Will HHS commit to following and enforcing all federal laws in the operation of this Task Force?
2. Does the Task Force intend to use federal funds to advocate against state laws that regulate abortion?
3. What did Assistant Secretary for Global Affairs Loyce Pace mean by her statement: "Advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights is central to our core global health goals"?
4. What funds will be used to set up and operate this Task Force?
5. What offices at HHS will be invited to be a part of the Task Force?
6. Please provide a list of all "senior-level HHS officials" who have been assigned to this Task Force.
7. Will the Task Force be both an intra-agency task force, as well as a coordinating unit for a similar inter-agency effort? If not, will all agencies set up similar task forces?
8. Please send the organizing documents stating the purpose, breadth, and measures for success for the Task Force.

Sincerely,



---

Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress



---

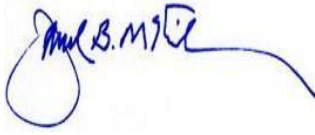
Christopher H. Smith  
Member of Congress



---

Vicky Hartzler  
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515



---

David B. McKinley  
Member of Congress



---

Jim Banks  
Member of Congress



---

Jeff Duncan  
Member of Congress



---

Lauren Boebert  
Member of Congress



---

Jeff Fortenberry  
Member of Congress



---

Glenn Grothman  
Member of Congress



---

Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress



---

Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress



---

Barry Loudermilk  
Member of Congress



---

Debbie Lesko  
Member of Congress



---

Markwayne Mullin  
Member of Congress



---

Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515



---

Mo Brooks  
Member of Congress



---

Scott Franklin  
Member of Congress



---

Randy Weber  
Member of Congress



---

Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress



---

August Pfluger  
Member of Congress



---

Kevin Brady  
Member of Congress



---

Ted Budd  
Member of Congress



---

Michael Guest  
Member of Congress



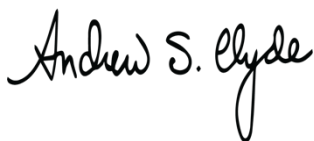
---

Randy Feenstra  
Member of Congress



---

Steven M. Palazzo  
Member of Congress



---

Andrew Clyde  
Member of Congress



---

Ronny L. Jackson  
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515



---

Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



---

Blake Moore  
Member of Congress



---

Glenn 'GT' Thompson  
Member of Congress



---

John R. Moolenaar  
Member of Congress



---

Ben Cline  
Member of Congress



---

Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress



---

Barry Moore  
Member of Congress



---

Fred Keller  
Member of Congress



---

Kat Cammack  
Member of Congress



---

Brian Babin, D.D.S  
Member of Congress



---

Mariannette J. Miller-Meeks, M.D.  
Member of Congress



---

Blaine Luetkemeyer  
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515



---

Rick Allen  
Member of Congress



---

Mike Johnson  
Member of Congress



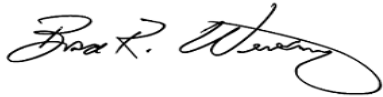
---

Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress



---

Mary Miller  
Member of Congress



---

Brad R. Wenstrup, D.P.M.  
Member of Congress



---

Richard Hudson  
Member of Congress



---

Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress



---

John H. Rutherford  
Member of Congress



---

Alex X. Mooney  
Member of Congress



---

Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



---

Robert B. Aderholt  
Member of Congress



---

Larry Bucshon, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515



---

John Rose  
Member of Congress



---

Julia Letlow  
Member of Congress



---

Russ Fulcher  
Member of Congress