



ADVANCING FAITH, FAMILY AND FREEDOM

January 18, 2018

Representative
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representative:

On behalf of Family Research Council (FRC) and the families we represent, I urge you to cosponsor and vote in favor of Rep. Marsha Blackburn's (R-TN) *Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act* (H.R. 4712). This legislation would require health care practitioners to provide life-saving medical care to babies born alive who survive an attempted abortion, just as they would do for other babies born at the same age of development. It would create criminal penalties to enforce what is currently only a definitional provision in federal law. FRC will score in favor of both the vote on the rule and the vote on the bill itself.

When signing the *Born-Alive Infants Protection Act* in 2002, President George W. Bush said,

The Born-Alive Infants Protection Act establishes a principle in America law and American conscience: there is no right to destroy a child who has been born alive. A child who is born has intrinsic worth and must have the full protection of our laws.

Passing this definitional law in 2002 was a huge victory, and has remained a principle for the American law and conscience. Up to this point, however, the law has not provided the government a way to hold abortionists accountable for this principled definition of the humanity of any infant born alive.

Given the atrocities against the born-alive infants whose necks were snipped by Dr. Kermit Gosnell and the Center for Medical Progress' horrifying videos exposing Planned Parenthood workers dissecting and selling the body parts of babies, possibly who were born-alive, it is essential that we enforce and strengthen the principle that born-alive infants are American citizens entitled to the full protection of our laws. Planned Parenthood is currently under investigation by Department of Justice for illegally profiting from the sale of baby body parts.

Rep. Blackburn's *Born-Alive* bill would require health care practitioners to treat babies born alive after failed abortion attempts with the same care they would treat a baby born at the same gestational age. It would require any violations to be reported to state and/or federal law agencies, and contains penalties for failure to report such violations. Additionally, it includes penalties for the intentional killing of infants born alive. The bill also expressly prohibits any prosecution under this Act of the mother of a child born-alive, and gives her a private right of action to seek relief if an abortionist were to kill or neglect her born-alive infant.

Again, on behalf of Family Research Council, I strongly encourage you to cosponsor and vote in favor of Rep. Marsha Blackburn's *Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act* (H.R. 4712) to provide the needed accountability to protect babies born alive. FRC will score in favor of both the vote on the rule providing for consideration of this legislation as well as the vote on the bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Christensen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

David Christensen
Vice President for Government Affairs