

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 30, 2017

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
United States Senate
Chairman, State, Foreign Operations & Related Programs Appropriations Subcommittee
290 Russell Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Graham,

Your longstanding commitment to pro-life policies during your chairmanship of the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs has been greatly appreciated, and we urge you to include language codifying the important pro-life actions that President Trump has taken on foreign assistance as you draft the FY18 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill.

As you are aware, President Trump issued a Presidential Memorandum reinstating and strengthening the “Mexico City Policy” on January 23, 2017. His order extended the policy to cover all existing global health assistance funds and protect our funding from being used by foreign non-governmental organizations that promote and perform abortions. It also directed the Secretary of State to take actions to ensure that taxpayer dollars are not used to fund organizations or programs that support or participate in the management of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization.

On April 4, President Trump took steps to discontinue funding of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). In the State Department’s letter to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee regarding this decision, it was noted that the UNFPA “supports, or participated in the management of a program of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization”.

Additionally, on May 15, 2017, President Trump announced the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance plan to implement pro-life policies in grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts with foreign non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that receive U.S. funding for global health assistance.

We applaud President Trump's actions and believe that it is necessary to codify these policies in statute. We respectfully request that the following language be included in the FY18 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill. Please note that 82 members of the House of Representatives made a similar request on March 30 to Chairman Hal Rogers:

UNFPA AND PROTECTING LIFE IN GLOBAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE LANGUAGE:

XXXX(a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available for the United Nations Population Fund

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for global health assistance may be made available to any foreign nongovernmental organization that promotes or performs abortions, except in cases of rape or incest or when the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term.

Sincerely,

Prof. [Signature]

Michael B. Enji

John Kennedy

[Signature]

Joni K. Anst

Tom Cotts

Rand Paul

Mike Cypr

~~Sam McCallister~~

John Barrasso

Tom Tillis

Luther Strange

Lyndie Wick

M. Mitch Bond

John Cornyn

Bill Cassidy, M.D.

J. L. [unclear]

Pat Romney

Jeff