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DATE: January 20, 2016

TO: Idaho State Legislators

FROM: David Stevens, MD, M.A. (Ethics)
CEO, Christian Medical & Dental Associations

REF: Support for the Idaho Unborn Infants Dignity Act

I'm writing on behalf of the 15,000 members of the Christian Medical & Dental Associations to express their support of the Idaho Unborn Infants Dignity Act for the following reasons.

- It is wrong to incentivize abortions. Whatever ones personal beliefs on the morality of elective abortions, most agree it would better if they were safe and seldom.
 - Using them as a means to harvest fetal tissue can cause the abortionists to alter and modify the procedure to a less safe surgical alternatives to insure valuable intact organ harvesting.
 - Obtaining consent to use fetal tissues can in itself influence women to choose abortion when they are told "some good" can come from their heart rending decision to end the life of their child.
- Harvesting fetal tissues or cells through abortions in unnecessary.
 - There are plenty of fetal tissues available for research from spontaneous miscarriages. One in four pregnancies end in a miscarriage each year. That is over 500,000 spontaneous miscarriages a year.
- Financially incentivizing abortion providers likely increases the number of abortions.
 - Despite a nearly 20 percent decline in the number of abortions in the country between 2000 and 2011, the number of abortions Planned Parenthood performed during that time increased from 197,070 to 333,964 through marketing and expansion. They are the largest single abortion provider in the USA.
 - They had total revenues of \$1.145 million dollars in 2013-14 and \$528 million of this came from government sources and could not be used to perform abortions though it could be used to counsel a woman to have an abortion.
 - Of the remaining \$603 million dollars of non-government revenue, \$263 million (43%) to \$491 million (81%) came from abortion. That wide range is based on the unrevealed percentage of income that came from chemical abortions costing up to \$800 and surgical abortions costing up to \$1,500 (Planned Parenthood's figures) each multiplied against the 333,964

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- abortions done in 2011.
- Adding \$50 to over \$1,000 (for a intact brain) **per organ** harvested markedly increases income when you consider that multiple organs and tissues can be harvested for "handling fees" from one fetus. This provides a perverse incentive to encourage women to have an abortion and to ask them to let their baby's organs and tissues is harvested.

As a bioethicist, physician and on behalf of our members, I ask you as a legislator to pass the sensible legislation of the Idaho Unborn Infants Dignity Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Stevens", written over a horizontal line.

David Stevens, MD, MA Ethics
CEO – Christian Medical & Dental Associations.