

\_\_\_\_\_  
*your address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Representative's address*

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ :

As your constituent, I write this letter to express my opposition to the Freedom of Choice Act, or "FOCA." ***I urge you to reconsider your support of FOCA legislation in the 2009 Congress.***

FOCA eliminates many modest restrictions to abortion that most Americans support. For example, FOCA would

- overturn parental notification of minors seeking an abortion
- overturn restrictions on late-term abortions, including partial-birth abortions
- overturn laws requiring counseling before an abortion
- overturn state abortion reporting requirements
- overturn conscience protection laws for individual health care providers and institutions

Unrestricted access to abortion does not protect women. Any "health care practitioner" will be allowed to perform an abortion and clinics will not be required to offer a full complement of support facilities in the case of complications or a child born alive. Full disclosure of the risks and alternatives of an abortion will not be required. FOCA is not protective; rather, it exposes women to serious health and emotional risks.

Unrestricted access to abortion does not reduce abortion rates. Maryland's rate of abortion increased despite enactment of FOCA-like legislation. California, Connecticut, Hawaii and Nevada all have FOCA-like laws on the books, yet all of these states have abortion rates that exceed the national average. There is no evidence to suggest that FOCA will reduce abortion.

Unrestricted access to abortion does not grant "freedom." It strips away the opportunity for an informed choice by promoting an unbalanced agenda. Moreover, it creates the potential for exploitation of women and unborn babies by exposing them to unsafe practices. Furthermore, it denies to individuals and institutions that provide healthcare services and do not support abortion, the freedom of choice to practice in accord with their moral convictions. Taxpayers who oppose abortion would be forced to pay for what we consider the ultimate affront to human dignity. FOCA, ironically, offers no "freedom of choice."

I respectfully implore you to withdraw your sponsorship of FOCA. It is extreme and it is dangerous.

Sincerely yours,

**THIS PAGE IS INSTRUCTIONS ONLY. DO NOT INCLUDE WITH LETTER.**

On the page above, there are eight blank lines.

On the first three lines, enter your name and address.

The next line is for the date

On the second set of three, write "The Honorable" followed by the Senator or Representatives name and then their address.

The eighth line is for "Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_" or Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_"