The Honorable Barney Frank  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on the Constitution  
2210 Rayburn H.O.B.  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Barney

My staff has just informed me that the minority has not requested that any medical experts be invited to testify on the effects of anesthesia during a partial-birth abortion, the subject of Thursday’s hearing before the Subcommittee on the Constitution.

As you know, the claim that anesthesia administered to a mother kills her unborn child before a partial-birth abortion has begun has been disseminated throughout the country by Kate Michelman of the National Abortion Rights Action League, Dr. Mary Campbell of Planned Parenthood, and the National Abortion Federation. Planned Parenthood and the National Abortion Federation represent hundreds of abortion providers. Surely one of their experts is willing to defend their claims. I find it disturbing that there is not a single medical expert to defend this claim which has been so prominent in the attacks on H.R. 1833.

In accordance with Committee procedures, I expect that I will receive the testimony of the minority’s witnesses today. If you are able to find a witness with medical credentials, I would be happy to extend the deadline for that witness’s testimony to 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.

Sincerely yours,

Charles T. Canady  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on the Constitution
March 15, 1996

The Honorable Henry J. Hyde
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Hyde:

Thank you for offering me the opportunity to testify on March 21, 1996 before the Subcommittee on the Constitution.

I regret that I will be unable to testify before the Subcommittee due to a previous commitment located outside of the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,

Kate Michelman

Kate Michelman

cc: The Honorable Barney Frank
Oversight Hearing: "Fetal Death" or Dangerous Deception?  
The Effects Of Anesthesia During A Partial-Birth Abortion  
2141 Rayburn House Office Building  
Thursday, March 21, 1996  
9:00 a.m.

WITNESS LIST

PANEL I:

Honorable Tom A. Coburn, M.D.  
U.S. House of Representatives, Oklahoma/2nd District

PANEL II:

Norig Ellison, M.D.  
President, American Society of Anesthesiologists  
Clinical Director, Department of Anesthesia, University of Pennsylvania Hospital  
Professor and Vice Chair, Department of Anesthesia, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

David J. Birnbach, M.D.  
President-Elect, Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology  
Director of Obstetric Anesthesiology, St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center, Columbia University

David Hill Chestnut, M.D.  
Chairman, Department of Anesthesiology, University of Alabama, Birmingham Hospital  
Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Department of Anesthesiology  
University of Alabama, Birmingham School of Medicine  
Editor, Obstetric Anesthesia: Principles and Practice, 1994

Jean A. Wright, M.D., M.B.A.  
Medical Director, Egleston Children's Hospital, Emory University  
Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Anesthesiology, Emory University

PANEL III

Brenda Pratt Shafer, R.N.  
Franklin, Ohio

Coreen Costello  
Agoura, California

Mary-Dorothy Line  
Marina del Ray, California

Helen M. Alvare  
Director of Planning and Information, Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, National Conference of Catholic Bishops