



ADVANCING FAITH, FAMILY AND FREEDOM

September 17, 2015

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

Dear Representative:

On behalf of Family Research Council and the thousands of families we represent, I strongly encourage your support of Rep. Trent Franks' (R-Ariz.) *Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act*, which would create criminal penalties to enforce what is currently a definitional provision.

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 bill was a huge victory, and has remained a principle for the American law and conscience. However, up to this point, the law has not provided the government a way of holding abortionists accountable to this principled definition of humanity of any infant born alive. Given the horrifying videos exposing gruesome practices at Planned Parenthood, and potential born-alive infants being dissected for parts even while their hearts are still beating, it is essential that the principle be enforced and strengthened. The federal government has a serious obligation to protect lives of every baby born alive.

Congressman Franks' bill requires 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 requires 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 protects the mother from prosecution and gives her a private right of action to seek relief in case of a violation of this legislation.

The killing of a baby whether by neglect or intentional means, who has been born alive, is abhorrent. Rep. Franks' bill provides the needed accountability to protect babies born alive. Again, on behalf of Family Research Council, I strongly encourage you to support H.R. 3504.

Sincerely,

David Christensen
Vice President for Government Affairs