

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

Dr. Scott Gottlieb
Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
10903 New Hampshire Ave
Silver Spring, MD 20993

September 24, 2018

Dear Commissioner Gottlieb,

We are deeply concerned about the \$15,900 contract FDA awarded to Advance Bioscience Resources (ABR) on July 25, 2018. As described in the pre-solicitation, the contract is to acquire “fresh human fetal tissue” for “ongoing research being led by the FDA.”

During the summer of 2015, the Senate Judiciary Committee began an inquiry into paid fetal tissue transfers involving ABR. In 2016 the House Select Investigative Panel on Infant Lives also conducted an investigation into the fetal tissue procurement industry and late abortion businesses. Among those entities investigated was ABR. By their own admission, ABR openly stated to Congress that it obtained tissue by collecting human fetal remains from abortion clinics.

ABR paid \$60 per “single aborted fetus”- and proceeded to sell the child’s body parts separately to researchers at a fee of \$325 per “specimen”-brain, eyes, liver, thymus and lungs. Federal law (42 USC 289g-2) strictly prohibits the buying and selling of human fetal tissue for “valuable consideration”.¹

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman, Charles Grassley, referred ABR to the FBI and the Department of Justice for “investigation and potential prosecution” under 42 USC 289g-2. The Select Panel on Infant Lives “uncovered evidence that ABR may have violated 42 U.S.C. 289g-2 and the California Health and Safety Law”. In light of this information, ABR was referred to both the Department of Justice and the District Attorney of Riverside County, California by the Select Panel on Infant Lives.

With the information uncovered by the investigative work of both the House and Senate panels regarding serious unresolved questions, we are alarmed that the FDA has continued to award contracts to ABR for the procurement of human fetal tissue. The practice of conducting research using the body parts of children whose lives have been violently ended by abortion is abhorrent. We urge you to cancel this contract immediately and utilize alternative, modern

¹ “Human Fetal Tissue Research: Context and Controversy” Majority Staff Report Prepared for the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, December 2016, p. 32, 35. Accessed at <https://www.grassley.senate.gov/sites/default/files/judiciary/upload/22920%20-%20FTR.pdf>

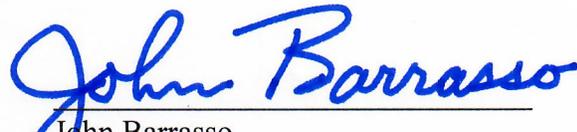
scientific techniques that do not contribute to the trafficking in baby body parts. We respectfully request a response to this letter by October 1, 2018.

Sincerely,

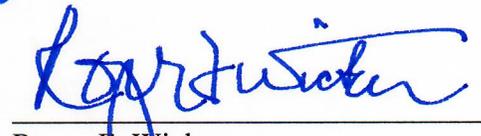

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James Lankford
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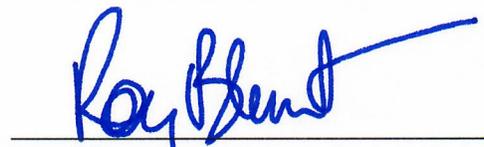

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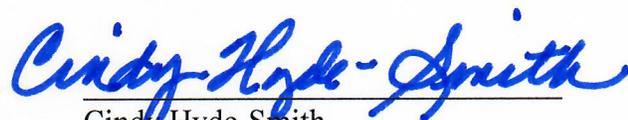

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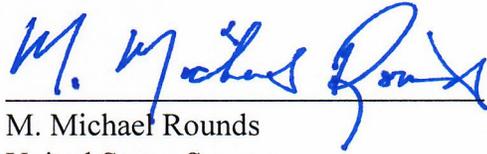

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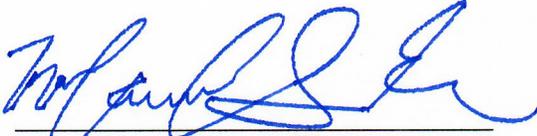
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