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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515-6015

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April 26, 2016

WILLIAM E. SMITH
CLERK AND STAFF DIRECTOR
TELEPHONE:
(202) 225-2771

The Honorable Daniel R. Levinson
Inspector General
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
330 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Mr. Levinson:

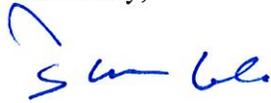
I have received a report summarizing a recent investigation conducted by the Office of Inspector General at the Corporation for National and Community Service, which found numerous violations of the Serve America Act. These violations involved AmeriCorps members serving as doulas to accompany women while they had abortions at a community health center. Since the prohibitions relating to abortion in the Serve America Act are similar to prohibitions carried annually in appropriations acts, I have concerns that health centers may not be complying with restrictions in the Labor-HHS spending bills.

I would like you to initiate an investigation to answer the following questions:

1. How many health centers that receive funds as authorized under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act offer abortion services?
2. How many abortions were performed at such centers in the most recent year available?
3. How much did these procedures cost?
4. Were any federal funds used to support these procedures, and if so, were relevant federal funding restrictions followed in each case?
5. Are all health centers that provide abortion services ensuring through their financial and accounting practices that federal funding restrictions related to abortion are being complied with?

Your timely assistance is greatly appreciated. Should you have further questions, please contact Susan Ross, Clerk of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, at (202) 225-3508.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Cole". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T" and "C".

Tom Cole
Chairman, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies