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May 11, 2008

The Honorable Joe Knollenberg
United States Representative
Michigan-9th, Republican
2349 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515-2209

Dear Congressman Knollenberg:

Since implementation of Transportation Security Administration at our airports, we have been concerned about the rights of people with disabilities. In my case I have an artificial arm. My colleague, Terry Howard, who often flies with me, is legally blind.

Between 2001 and 2003, we put up with the degrading, intrusive processes - including having to take off my arm numerous times, unreasonable/violating searches, poorly trained people, verbal abuses, etc. Beginning in 2004, we became much more assertive because we did not feel that things are changing. In order to give you a sense of the issues, we have attached three TSA complaints (2004, 2007, and 2008). We have chosen to not bore you with the various airline company complaints.

We are writing to you because of the most recent incident. Over the years we have had to deal with TSA issues. But now a new element has been introduced – the airline company giving a "special search" designation to TSA. TSA asserts it must do the special search because of this designation. We are concerned

- because there are now two sets of criteria: TSA and airline company;
- because the airline company's criteria are unknown and are not governed by Homeland Security;
- because, when asked, TSA says it is the airline's decision;
- because a publicly supported agency is being asked to do the work of a private company; and
- because there is inconsistent application across the country (it is a delight to go through Regan Airport and a disaster to go through the Detroit Airport).

Your support and intervention are being sought because the rights of people with disabilities continue to erode. As regular fliers we understand security needs but we do not understand when children's strollers (used in bombings) and wire-lined brassieres go through faster checks at airports than that for prosthetic devices, wheelchairs, etc. I must tell you that the security facade does not make me feel any safer today than I felt 10 years ago.

People with disabilities are the largest minority group in the country with the highest discretionary income. Please understand that as Americans grow older, the odds are high that they will join our group. I guarantee you that when they arrive they will not like the experiences that we are having to deal with every day of our lives.

Please help us by getting involved and straightening out the TSA mess. Certainly your work will be rewarded by voting people with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Gregory W. Ulferts

Gregory W. Ulferts
32831 Bingham Lane
Bingham Farms, MI 48025

Attachments

ROVWAPT

Citizen Petition to Reverse Roe v. Wade
to Congressman Joe Knollenberg

Whereas: Because of *Roe v. Wade*, more than 45 million unborn children have died through abortion, and

Whereas: In *Roe v. Wade*, the U.S. Supreme Court declared it could not resolve "the difficult question of when life begins" – and on the basis of this unresolved question, declared a new "right to abortion" based on a "right of privacy", and

Whereas: The 14th Amendment to the Constitution states: "nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law"; and

Whereas: In *Roe*, the Supreme Court admitted: "If . . . personhood [for the unborn] is established, the appellant's case, of course, collapses, for the fetus' right to life is then guaranteed specifically by the [Fourteenth] Amendment. . ." (*Roe v. Wade* [410 US 113 at 156-7]); and

Whereas: Science is clear that human life begins at conception when a new human being is formed; and

Whereas: The American people oppose abortion-on-demand and want innocent human life to be protected especially when it is most defenseless; and

Whereas: It belongs to Congress to resolve the question the Supreme Court said IT cannot resolve; and

Whereas: A Life at Conception Act, by declaring that unborn children are persons legally entitled to constitutional protection, will rescue millions of unborn children from dying by abortion-on-demand;

Therefore: I urge you to cosponsor and cast every vote for a Life at Conception Act, and to do everything necessary to win ultimate passage in the United States Congress.

Signature Mr Charles O'Connor City Hills Farmington State MI

Mr. Charles O'Connor Farmington Hills MI

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