

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 16, 2006

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush:

For almost a year, you have denied the American public an explanation of your position on birth control. On May 26th 2005, a member of the press corps asked your then White House Press Secretary, Scott McClellan, whether or not you support the right to birth control. Since then, many of us have written four letters asking you to delineate your position and reporters have repeatedly asked you to explicitly state your support for access to birth control. We have received no response to our letters, and Mr. McClellan's answers to press inquiries on the subject were ambiguous at best. We are left wondering if you oppose access to birth control.

As noted in an article published by the *Washington Post* (*Plan B Battles Embroil States* 2/27/2006), whether a woman can quickly obtain birth control in America increasingly depends on where she lives. Around the country, state legislators are introducing bills that would restrict a woman's access to birth control. We are concerned that those who seek to restrict or eliminate safe, legal abortions are expanding their goals and now also seek to restrict access to emergency contraception and other forms of prescription birth control.

There are 42 million women in America who must use some method of birth control in order to avoid unintended pregnancies— many of them married. These women would like you to be clear that you support their right to contraception.

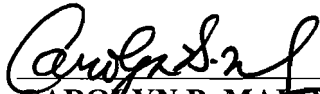
Because you have evaded previous requests for an explanation of your position on birth control with unclear responses, we have broken our request into six separate questions:

1. Do you believe that ALL Americans have the right to birth control, including access to a range of contraceptive choices, from condoms to emergency contraception?
2. Do you support insurance coverage for prescription contraceptive drugs and devices?
3. Do you support federal funding for LOCAL birth control clinics?
4. Do you think a woman should be able to obtain emergency contraception at her local pharmacy without a prescription?
5. Do you think pharmacies should be required to fill all legal PRESCRIPTIONS INCLUDING birth control ?
6. More than half of American teenagers have engaged in sex by the time they graduate from


high school. Do you support comprehensive sex education in the schools, including teaching about birth control and safe sex, as well as abstinence?


We along with the American public respectfully request answers to these important questions.


Sincerely,

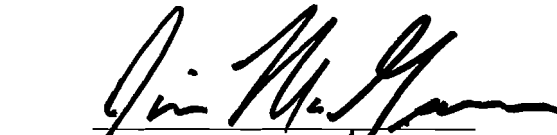

CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress

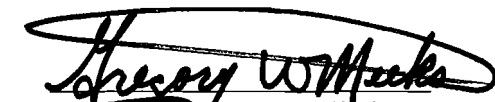

CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress

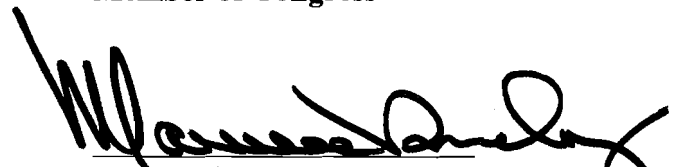

TAMMY BALDWIN
Member of Congress


LOIS CAPPS
Member of Congress



HILDA L. SOLIS
Member of Congress


JAMES P. McGOVERN
Member of Congress



GREGORY W. MEEKS
Member of Congress


MAURICE HINCHEY
Member of Congress


BARNEY FRANK
Member of Congress



WM. LACY CLAY
Member of Congress

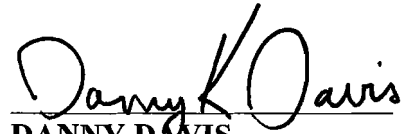

HENRY A. WAXMAN
Member of Congress

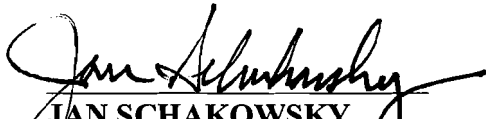

LYNN C. WOOLSEY
Member of Congress



ZOE LOFGREN
Member of Congress


GARY L. ACKERMAN
Member of Congress

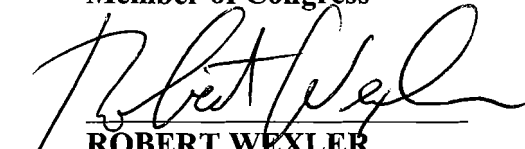

DEBBIE WASSERMAN-SCHULTZ
Member of Congress

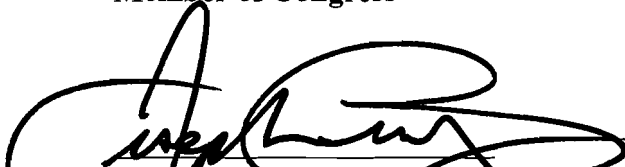

DANNY DAVIS
Member of Congress


JAN SCHAKOWSKY
Member of Congress



CAROLYN MCCARTHY
Member of Congress

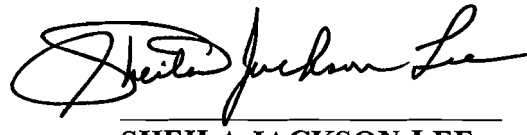

STEVE ISRAEL
Member of Congress

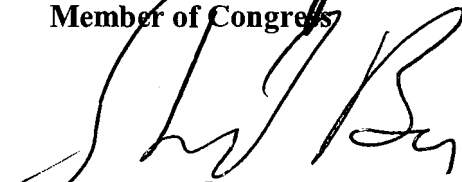

ROBERT WEXLER
Member of Congress



JOSEPH CROWLEY
Member of Congress


MICHAEL HONDA
Member of Congress


RAUL M. GRIJALVA
Member of Congress


SHEILA JACKSON-LEE
Member of Congress


SHERROD BROWN
Member of Congress

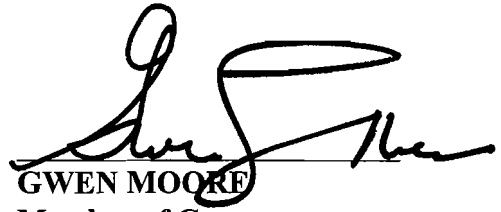

CHRIS VAN HOLLEN
Member of Congress


DIANE E. WATSON
Member of Congress

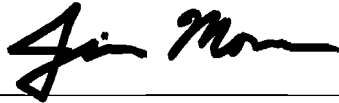

RUSH D. HOLT
Member of Congress



FORTNEY PETE STARK
Member of Congress



GWEN MOORE
Member of Congress



JAMES MORAN
Member of Congress



ELLEN TAUSCHER
Member of Congress



JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD
Member of Congress



KAY INSLEE
Member of Congress



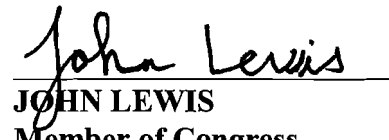
JULIA CARSON
Member of Congress



BARBARA LEE
Member of Congress



ALCEE HASTINGS
Member of Congress



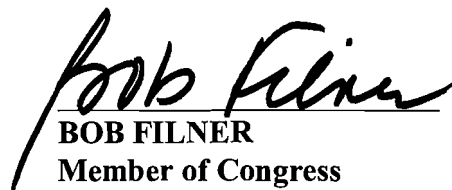
JOHN LEWIS
Member of Congress



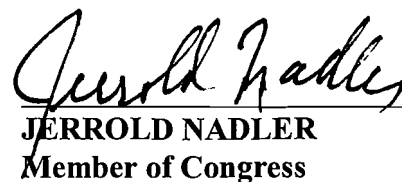
LINDA SANCHEZ
Member of Congress



LORETTA SANCHEZ
Member of Congress



BOB FILNER
Member of Congress



JERROLD NADLER
Member of Congress