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Pro-Life

TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

BANKING AND FINANCIAL
SERVICES COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3820

March 31, 1999

The Honorable Thomas Tangretti
Attn: Nicole
House Box 2020
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Representative Tangretti:

Enclosed, please find the information that you requested from my office regarding the FDA and contraceptives. Please accept my apologies for any lapse in service that may have resulted from our recent heavy legislative schedule.

In speaking to Joan Batson at the FDA, I have discovered that the FDA does not set definitions for the drugs that they test, nor do they keep a comprehensive classification list of all of the drugs that they approve. The FDA merely tests the claims that a manufacturer makes when applying for approval to market their drug or device. Furthermore, Joan indicated that a comprehensive listing and classification of all of the products they approve would prove too costly and time consumptive for their funding limits.

While I am unable to forward you the requested FDA definition, I am forwarding information given to my office on the types of approved contraceptive medications and devices as taken from the April 1997 edition of *FDA Consumer* magazine. I hope this proves helpful.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Very truly yours,



Frank Mascara
Member of Congress

FM:ts

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