



**SENATOR CHARLES SCHWERTNER, MD**  
SENATE DISTRICT 5

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Planned Parenthood Backtracks; Announces  
It Will No Longer Sell Aborted Fetal Tissue**

*Faced with ongoing public outcry following the release of several undercover videos, Planned Parenthood withdraws support for the sale of aborted fetal tissue.*

**AUSTIN, TX** -- In a letter sent to the National Institutes of Health, Cecile Richards, President of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, announced that clinics affiliated with Planned Parenthood will no longer be in the business of selling aborted fetal remains to medical research companies. Today's announcement represents a substantial reversal for Planned Parenthood, who had vigorously defended the practice as recently as two weeks ago following the release of several undercover videos earlier in the year.

"Faced with overwhelming opposition by Americans of all political backgrounds, Planned Parenthood announced today that its clinics will no longer sell the tissue of unborn babies," said Senator Charles Schwertner (R-Georgetown). "While Cecile Richards is quick to point out that her organization arrived at this decision out of political expediency rather than any sense of moral responsibility, it's clear that Planned Parenthood no longer wishes to defend a practice that is so profoundly indefensible to the American public."

On July 29, Senator Schwertner convened an emergency hearing of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services to investigate the business practices of Planned Parenthood and examine the regulatory framework governing the sale or donation of aborted fetal tissue. Despite numerous invitations to appear before the committee, representatives from Planned Parenthood declined to answer questions on the matter, choosing instead to host a political rally at the State Capitol.

In a broad list of interim charges released earlier today, Lt. Governor Dan Patrick requested the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services to "examine and make recommendations on the use of fetal tissue for research purposes and how related laws governing abortion procedures are interpreted and enforced."

"Moving forward, the Texas Legislature will continue to evaluate what additional steps can be taken to protect the sanctity of life and prevent these kind of abhorrent practices from being repeated in the future," continued Schwertner.

A medical doctor by training, Dr. Schwertner currently serves as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services. Schwertner is currently serving his second term as the senator for Senate District 5, a ten-county region of central and east Texas.

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