



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0906

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
H-307, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hal Rogers
H-310, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Matt Cartwright
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger, Subcommittee Chair Rogers, Ranking Member DeLauro, and Subcommittee Ranking Member Cartwright:

As you begin drafting the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2024, we respectfully request that you include language that would prohibit funding for the Department of Justice to enforce the FACE Act (18 U.S. Code § 248).

Last September, the American people watched in horror as dozens of heavily armed Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents and more than a dozen vehicles conducted an early-morning raid, with guns drawn, on the home of Mark Houck, his wife, and seven children.

Since then, Mark Houck has been found innocent of all charges, but Attorney General Merrick Garland has refused to admit that the overwhelming use of force against an innocent American citizen was a mistake.

This is far from the only example of the Biden DOJ abusing the FACE Act against American citizens. In 2022, the FACE Act was used more than two dozen times against pro-life activists including Mark Houck, Father Fidelis Moscinski, Lauren Handy, Herb Geraghty, and a Holocaust survivor. Prior to this year, the FACE Act had never been used to indict individuals related to an attack on a pro-life pregnancy center or house of worship.

We therefore request that you include the following language in the FY 2024 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act:

(1) None of the funds provided under this Act to the Department of Justice, or provided under a previous or subsequent appropriations Act to such department, or provided from any account in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to such department, may be used to investigate or to criminally or civilly prosecute any individual for an actual or possible violation, that occurred during the current or any prior fiscal year, of—

(A) section 248 of title 18, United States Code; or

(B) sections 241 or 371 of such title by reason of any violation of such section 248.

(2) Nothing in this section may be construed to imply that such section 248 secures any right or privilege with regard to abortion for purposes of such section 241.

The Biden Administration has proven time and time again that it cannot be trusted to faithfully implement and enforce the FACE Act, as written by Congress. Until such a time, Congress ought to withhold the use of funds for enforcing this law and seriously consider repealing the statute in its entirety.

We appreciate your attention to this important request.

Sincerely,



Chip Roy
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Daniel Webster
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



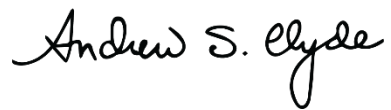
Harriet M. Hageman
Member of Congress



Eric Burlison
Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Andrew S. Clyde
Member of Congress



James Moylan
Member of Congress



Eli Crane
Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress