

This week I supported passage of [H.R. 3541](#) , the Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act of 2012. This important bill would help to protect pre-born life by prohibiting abortions on the sole basis that the child is not a desired gender. Recent studies have shown that sex-selection abortions—particularly of females—are taking place within some American communities. Meanwhile, an [independent investigation](#) into the practices of specific clinics that provide abortions has exposed paid staff raising no objections to an undercover pregnant woman expressing her intention to have an abortion if their pre-born child is a girl. Sadly, even as Congress has repeatedly condemned other nations for policies that encourage sex-selection abortion, the United States is one of the only advanced nations in the world that does not prohibit the practice under the law.

Unfortunately, this common sense bill did not secure enough votes to pass. I was saddened and disappointed by this outcome but will continue to strongly support this legislation should the House take it up again in the future. No matter your view on life issues, we should be able to agree that sex-selection abortion is a morally reprehensible practice that should be explicitly prohibited in our nation.