United States Senate

September 16, 2021

Mr. Sundar Pichai CEO, Google 1600 Ampitheatre Parkway Mountain View, CA 94043

Dear Mr. Pichai:

We are deeply concerned by Google's decision to ban Live Action's pro-life ads promoting Heartbeat International's Abortion Pill Reversal (APR) hotline. Google's pro-life censorship is out of step with the science and reflects an unacceptable bias against pro-life views. We insist that you immediately reverse this decision.

Google initially approved Live Action's APR ads and they ran for over four months, spending over \$170,000 and directing thousands of people to the APR hotline.² On September 13, Google unexpectedly shut down these ads without warning or evidence, citing its "unreliable claims" policy.³ Google has subsequently indicated that it took this action after reviewing a one-sided pro-abortion "report" provided by a left-leaning news agency.⁴ Google has also since stated that it censored APR ads because they made "unproven medical claims", citing "serious concerns" from the pro-abortion American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG).⁵ It is shameful that Google has acted to appease pro-abortion activists by silencing pro-life voices, rather than considering all the evidence and following the science.

Progesterone treatment has been safely used in pregnancy for decades to prevent miscarriage.⁶ In APR, this treatment is used to halt a chemical abortion, giving a mother (and her baby) who changes her mind after only taking the first abortion pill a second chance. APR treatments, moreover, have reportedly saved the lives of over 2,500 children and have a 64-68% success rate.⁷⁸

While banning pro-life APR ads, Google continues to allow ads for purveyors of the deadly abortion pill *mifepristone* by mail, despite the fact this drug has resulted in at least 24 mothers' tragic deaths and at least 1,042 mothers being sent to the hospital. Google's double standard on abortion is disingenuous and an egregious abuse of its enormous market power to protect the billion-dollar abortion industry. The practical consequence of Google's abortion distortion is that

¹ https://www.reverseabortionpill.com

² https://www.liveaction.org/news/google-shuts-live-action-abortion-pill-reversal/

³ Ibid.

⁴ https://www.thedailybeast.com/facebook-is-raking-it-in-with-anti-abortion-ads-from-live-action

⁵ https://dailycaller.com/2021/09/14/pro-life-group-says-google-banned-its-ads-in-dramatic-and-unprecedented-move/

⁶ https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/17964858/

⁷ https://www.heartbeatinternational.org/our-work/apr

⁸ https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30831017/

⁹ https://www.fda.gov/media/112118/download

pregnant mothers in crisis will only have the option to be marketed abortion drugs through Google's ad platforms, while life-affirming alternatives are suppressed.

We ask that you promptly answer these questions:

- 1. Did any Google employees communicate with, or receive communications from, any representatives of pro-abortion organizations or news agencies, requesting Live Action's APR ads be banned? If so, please provide the names of these organizations and news agencies.
- 2. Were scientists or medical doctors with a diversity of views on abortion consulted in the decision to ban the APR ads? Or only those who promote abortion (like ACOG)?
- 3. Will Google also remove ads for the deadly abortion pill *mifepristone*?

Again, we urge you to reverse Google's unjust and indefensible decision to suppress these prolife life-saving APR information ads, and we look forward to your prompt response to the above questions.

Sincerely,

Steve Daines

United States Senator

Jarsha Machburn

Marsha Blackburn

United States Senator

Mike Braun

United States Senator

Cindy Hyde-Smith United States Senator

Roger Wicker

United States Senator

Marco Rubio

United States Senator

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Mike Lee United States Senator

Jan Jarge

James Lankford United States Senator

James M. Inhofe United States Senator Tom Cett

Tom Cotton United States Senator

148

Ted Cruz United States Senator