



North Carolina General Assembly
House of Representatives

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June 9, 2011

Dear Representatives,

I feel compelled to clarify some testimony that was given on the floor yesterday by Rep. McElraft in regards to HB 854. As you may recall she told a story about an experience that her nephew and niece in law had when facing an unintended pregnancy. In the recitation of her story, Rep. McElraft neglected to tell the members that this story happened in the state of Georgia, not North Carolina.

She also frequently mentioned Planned Parenthood in her story. In fact, her niece and nephew went to a Planned Parenthood in Augusta. Since they did not provide abortion care at that time, they referred her to another provider, not affiliated with Planned Parenthood in Atlanta.

Because Planned Parenthood has been continuously defamed during this session, I wanted to make sure that in Rep. McElraft's telling of such an emotional story, that the members were not misled into believing that a Planned Parenthood facility would ever operate in such a manner.

Also, I think it is extremely unfortunate that Rep. McElraft would use a story that happened in another state over a decade ago to conclude that changes must be made in North Carolina in 2011.

I understand that the Speaker's Policy Staff and many other members of this body have been invited to visit a Planned Parenthood facility for a tour and to observe the high standard of care that women received in this already highly-regulated business. To date, none have taken up the offer.

Sincerely,

Rep. Alma Adams, PhD
NC House – District 58