



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ALABAMA STATE HOUSE

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

DISTRICT NO. 43
Shelby County

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COMMITTEES:

WAYS AND MEANS GENERAL FUND
HEALTH
CONSTITUTION, CAMPAIGNS & ELECTIONS
SHELBY COUNTY LEGISLATION

May 13, 2019

Representative Mac McCutcheon
Speaker of the House
Alabama House of Representatives
Alabama State House
11 South Union Street, Room 519
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

This is a Formal Complaint Letter about John Rogers, Representative of Alabama's 52nd House District, concerning recent statements made by him that violate Rule 50 of the Rules of the Alabama House of Representatives –

Rule 50. (a) Members shall act with decorum at all times on the House floor and in committee meetings. Every member shall observe decency of speech; never use language or engage in activity that is profane, obscene, tasteless, vulgar, morally crude, or meant to harass; and confine remarks to the question under consideration. Members may not make statements that reflect upon the character or conduct of any person. (b) Members shall refrain from making personal, insensitive, derogatory, contemptuous, or disrespectful comments regarding the ethnicity, economic status, race, or social characteristics or demographics of the constituents of a member's district.

Representative John Rogers made cruel, abhorrent remarks on the floor of the State House of Representatives on April 30th which shamed the State of Alabama and embarrassed the Alabama House of Representatives. He stated, "So you kill them now or you kill them later— it doesn't matter" when speaking about the lives of children born in poverty. He then defended his original remarks by attacking Donald Trump, Jr., and referring to him as "evidently retarded" and stating that "his mother should've aborted him."

Representative Rogers comments are offensive and hurtful to the thousands of Alabama families who have special needs children whom they love, as well as to all Alabama adults with special needs who are living full lives filled with meaning and dignity.

Representative Rogers' comments have brought national shame and ridicule upon the House and his comments do not represent the Alabama House of Representatives, its staff, or its membership. Alabama voters declared that Alabama would "recognize and support the sanctity of unborn life and the rights of unborn children, including the right to life," by passing a constitutional amendment on November 6, 2018 with more than 900,000 votes.

The Alabama House of Representatives should formally censure and condemn Representative John Rogers for conduct his statements that denigrate, embarrass and demean the institution that is the Alabama House of Representatives. Representative John Rogers should issue a formal apology to the members of the Alabama House of Representatives and most importantly to the people of Alabama for embarrassing them with such vile remarks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Arnold Mooney".

Arnold Mooney
Representative, Alabama House District 43