

Congressman Steve King today made the following statement calling on President Obama to withdraw his nomination of Dawn Johnsen to head the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel. The Senate Judiciary Committee will vote on Johnsen's nomination today.

"When President Obama rescinded the Mexico City Policy, he stated, 'No matter what our views, we are united in our determination to prevent unintended pregnancies, reduce the need for abortion and support women and families in the choices they make. To accomplish these goals, we must work to find common ground.'

"Nominating Dawn Johnsen to head the Office of Legal Counsel is a serious step away from finding common ground with pro-life Americans. Her personal pro-abortion agenda, previous disparaging comments about pro-life Americans and past criticism of Congress' ban on partial-birth abortion are evidence that she is not interested in finding common ground with those who oppose her narrow philosophy. Ms. Johnsen has condemned virtually every type of regulation of abortion conceived by a legislature.

"She is so against an unborn child's right-to-live that she has labeled mothers-to-be 'fetal containers.'

"The Office of Legal Counsel needs a leader who will place the rule of law above political philosophy or personal agenda. Ms. Johnsen is not that leader, and her nomination will detract from the President's stated goal of reducing abortions and finding common ground on life issues."