Dear Mr. Vitter,

It has come to our attention that you sponsored a piece of legislation titled The Birth Right Citizenship Act of 2011 in light of Anwar al-Alwalki’s assassination. In this act, you argue that a person should not necessarily be considered a U.S. citizen simply because they are born on our soil. After looking into Al-Alwalki’s case and noting some discrepancies in the information provided by the CIA, I am appealing to you specifically to push for a detailed investigation into this case knowing that you are well informed and invested in the issue.

The first and most obvious starting point for this investigation should be: Should al-Alwalki really be considered an American citizen? Does the fact that al-Alwalki was born on American soil to parents who were not American citizens make him a citizen? Despite the fact that American law has, up to this point, protected children born on American soil as American citizens, I, like you, think that this needs to be readdressed in the context of today’s evolving world. Al-Alwalki was in fact born to non-American citizens and has lived in Yemen, not the United States, for a good portion of his life and Yemen is also where he has conducted his questionable, criminal involvement. If our current law did not protect al-Awlaki as a United States citizen simply because he was born on our soil, the legal debate surrounding his assassination would not be a debate at all.

Not only should al-Awlaki’s citizenship be called into question, but I also question the ethical issues surrounding the murder of his son. Was al-Awlaki's son privy to what his father was allegedly "planning"? My dad is a lawyer who deals with large corporations. If he discovers a piece of information that could ruin a corporation, that corporation may feel it necessary to kill him in order to stop him from releasing that information. Taking this one step further, would it be justified to kill me or my sister simply because of something my dad knows?

In addition to al-Awlaki’s son’s death, what other collateral damage resulted from the release of this drone? Is it important enough for us to destroy large amounts of land and people for the purpose of protecting ourselves and securing our land from one potential threat? Did this drone do more harm than good? After further investigation, the government may find that a new protocol should be established that requires the government to survey and predict the amount of collateral damage that will be produced prior to planning a drone release.

In order to determine if the CIA’s act of killing al-Awlaki was justifiable, we must first assess the legal issues of birthright citizenship, the ethical issues surrounding the murder of al-Awlaki’s son, as well as the collateral damage that resulted from the drone. Because the CIA is hesitant to release information about this case, I am relying on *you* to revisit your Birthright Citizenship Act and push for further investigation.

Sincerely,