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Subject: Respect for conscience
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The legislation that is proposed to force at least some insurance companies from providing sterilizations and contraception with no copays, without meaningful conscience protections, is truly disturbing.

First of all, we must have a common understanding that the definition of health care is to have some function of the human body that is not operating normally, and to try to fix it. This is a common sense definition. But, sterilization and contraception, by their very definition, take the reproductive function of the body, and intends to break its normal functionality. So, by definition, sterilization and contraception ARE NOT health care.

Further, pregnancy is not a disease to be prevented, nor is the embryo an enemy who once conceived has no right of access to the nurturing womb of his or her mother. When a nation, with its policies, defines some human beings as a "disease", or a "parasite" that needs to be removed, then this is the highest form of racism, which I thought was supposed to be illegal in these United States.

Regarding conscience rights, many people have deeply held convictions that sterilization and contraception hurt people (or at least their view of the inherent dignity of every human person), and thus cannot participate. Nor should such people, when they are health care professionals, be forced to violate their conscience or lose/quit their jobs. This policy is a direct violation of this principle, and has at least the effect, if not the intent, to enforce a specific morality on all. As this idea of sterilization and contraception being health care is part of a belief system (as I have already shown to be a self-contradictory belief system), this is called the Establishment of a Religion by the US Government. So, this is also a disregard for the rule of the Constitution in our country. I urge you to reconsider and to provide meaningful conscience protections for health care providers who, for personal conscience reasons, do not wish to be forced to provide or refer for sterilization, contraception, or abortion. Our Constitution, and thus our country, depends on it.

Sincerely,
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