

**From:** [memersmann@kiefertonfanti.com](mailto:memersmann@kiefertonfanti.com)  
**To:** [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)  
**Subject:** Comment: RIN 1210-AB44  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 07, 2011 1:49:23 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I demand that you rescind the unjust and coercive mandate that all "contraceptives" and sterilization procedures be covered by private health insurance with no co-pay to patients.

If you do not rescind the mandate, I ask you to expand conscience protections for any organizations that provide individual and group insurance and have moral or religious objections to providing such services and procedures.

I strongly oppose the government forcing insurance coverage especially for drugs and devices that I oppose because of conscience and moral concerns (such as Ella and Plan B).

The definition of "religious employer" in the regulation is so narrow as to only include churches, and will mean that many businesses and organizations that have conscience objections will be required to choose between either violating their conscience or not being able to offer employees health insurance.

I encourage reconsideration of the definition of religious employer and that authentic conscience protection be provided for any organization or business that has moral or religious objection to providing such insurance coverage to their employees. This legal mandate clearly violates the spirit of conscience laws which prohibit government discrimination against those who object to various health services on moral or religious grounds.

Please protect the conscience rights of insurers, providers and people like me who object to being forced by the federal government to offer or subsidize contraceptives and sterilization services. No taxpayers should be forced by the federal government to subsidize services they object to.

Sincerely,  
Mark Mersmann  
Chesterfield, MO 63017