

**From:** [rgberesford@juno.com](mailto:rgberesford@juno.com)  
**To:** [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)  
**Subject:** Comment: RIN 1210-AB44  
**Date:** Friday, September 09, 2011 6:33:02 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing today to request in the strongest way possible 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 reverse course I insist that you expand conscience protections for any organizations that provide individual and group insurance and have moral or religious objections. I oppose the government forcing free insurance coverage on Americans in the strongest possible sense, especially for drugs and devices that I oppose because some of these can cause an abortion (such as ella and Plan B). the use of such drugs and devices for that purpose is unconscionable for anyone, and the federal government has absolutely no jurisdiction in this area.

I also ask you to amend your definition of religious employer and honor the appeal to conscience protection for any organization and business that has moral or religious objection to providing such insurance to their employees. This 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. The definition of "religious employer" in the regulation is so narrow as to only include churches, but will still mean that a host of 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.

As servants of the public, you are under obligation to honor and 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, especially when some of these drugs can take the life of unborn children, no matter how early in their life. No Americans should be forced by the federal government to subsidize services they object to, either openly or by default. I again urge you in the strongest way possible to reverse course and remove contraceptives and sterilizations from the list of mandatory preventive services.

Sincerely,  
Rex Beresford  
Curtis, WA 98538