

**From:** [daddypipes@bellsouth.net](mailto:daddypipes@bellsouth.net)  
**To:** [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)  
**Subject:** Comment: RIN 1210-AB44  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 27, 2011 9:47:15 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

Yes, what follows is a form letter, but I do agree with it. My personal message states simply that requiring insurance companies to cover medications that cause abortion forces all of the insured to participate in paying for the same abortions. If you truly defend choice, allow people to have a choice in NOT participating in abortion. If insurance choose to provide abortions and abortion meds, then those who support that choice can choose to participate with those companies, but do not deny the rest of us a choice as well by mandatory abortion coverage. Also, objectors by conscience exist throughout American society. The limitations on exemptions is too narrow. My wife is a nurse and I know should would refuse to participate in killing a child in the womb. Please expand those who can refuse to participate in abortion by exemption.

Thank you

The message continues,

I am writing today to ask 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 ask you to expand conscience protections for any organizations that provide individual and group insurance and have moral or religious objections. I strongly oppose the government forcing free insurance coverage on Americans especially for drugs and devices that I oppose because some of these can cause an abortion (such as ella and Plan B).

I also ask you to reconsider your definition of religious employer and offer an authentic conscience protection for any organization and business that has moral or religious objection to providing such insurance 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. 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.

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, especially when some of these drugs can take the life of early unborn children. No Americans should be forced by the federal government to essentially subsidize services they object to. 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,  
Andrew Stevens  
Taylors, SC 29687