To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing today in regards to the unjust and coercive mandate that all "contraceptives" and sterilization procedures be covered by private health insurance with no co-pay to patients. I strongly oppose because as a Catholic Christian, it violates my deeply held moral and religious convictions. The Catholic church considers both artifical contraception and sterilization intrinsically evil. This mandate would force millions of Catholics, as well as other Christian denominations, that are against artificial birth control and abortion (Plan B and Ella are abortifacient) to be forced to bear the cost of what they consider immoral.

Your religious exemption is so narrowly worded that Catholic charities, Catholic hospitals, Catholic schools, colleges and universities might not fit the definiton and not be exempted at all.

If you do not rescind this policy or expand the definition,

so Christian institutions that have moral and religous objection to providing such services to their employees are officially exempted, it will mean they will be forced to close or violate their religious convictions. You leave no other choice.

The constitution gives all American citizens the "right" to religous freedom and has a history of protecting the conscience rights of its citizens. We do not force those who object to going to war to fight on the front lines. They are exempted because of their religously held beliefs against having to kill.

This mandate should likewise exclude those who have conscientious objections on religious grounds. Its the same principle.

Please protect the conscience rights of insurers, providers and people like me who object to being forced by the federal government to violate my religious beliefs. Thank you

Sincerely, Mrs. Joan Jacobson

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