

**From:** [jeanayathomas@msn.com](mailto:jeanayathomas@msn.com)  
**To:** [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)  
**Subject:** Comment: RIN 1210-AB44  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 27, 2011 7:07:52 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

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 drugs and devices that cause an abortion (such as ella and Plan B). I do not feel that covering them should be forced upon employers with objections to abortion causing drugs.

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. THIS IS NOT RIGHT!

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, based on religious convictions. 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,  
Jeanaya Thomas  
Stockton, CA 95206