To Whom it May Concern:

Pregnancy is a natural human process that is necessary for the continuation of the human race. It is not like the flu or cancer. Pregnancy is not a disease. Drugs and surgeries to prevent pregnancy are not basic health care that the government should require all Americans to purchase. Please remove sterilization and prescription contraceptives from the list of "preventive services" the federal government is mandating in private health plans. It is especially important to exclude any drug that may cause an early abortion.

It is also important to fully respect religious freedom as other federal laws do. The narrow religious exemption in HHS's new rule protects almost no one. Religion is not simply a private personal thing. It impacts every aspect of one's life. The right of one to practice one's religion for the betterment of oneself and of society has long been a part of our county. Do not place restrictions that are inconsistent with our national heritage. I urge you to allow all organizations and individuals to offer, sponsor and obtain health coverage that does not violate their moral and religious convictions.

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