From:
 dwigk@sbcglobal.net

 To:
 E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA

 Subject:
 Comment: RIN 1210-AB44

Date: Wednesday, September 07, 2011 1:25:41 PM

## U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:

I urge you to rescind the mandate that all "contraceptives" and sterilization procedures be covered by private health insurance with no co-pay to patients. 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 (such as Ella and Plan B) can take the life of early unborn children. No Americans should be compelled by the federal government to subsidize services to which they hold strong religious objection. I encourage you to reverse course and remove contraceptives and sterilizations from the list of mandatory preventive services.

I also ask you to reconsider your definition of religious employer and offer an authentic conscience protection for any organization or 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.

Sincerely, Dena Kline Tomball, TX 77377