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.

Life is something to be protected and valued, not prevented and destroyed. Most doctors will agree that the birth control pill, as a back-up should ovulation occur, will prevent the implantation of the fetus. Therefore, the birth control pill causes abortions. Ella and Plan B most definitely abortions. From a medical, scientific, and religious standpoint, life starts at conception. Therefore, abortion is murder. So what you are telling me is that now we are going to make the murder of these unborn children even more prevalent by offering these drugs for free! And to top it off, me and millions of other conscientious objectors will be paying for it with our higher insurance premiums! UNBELIEVABLE!

Look, if someone really doesn't want to have a baby, they can (1) not have sex or (2) buy a cheap package of condoms. There is absolutely no reason that we need to be giving these drugs away like they're candy. This is just not right. I beg of you to place a higher value on life. And to stick to your promises of lowering insurance premiums rather than raising them.

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,

Karen Bishop

Sincerely, Karen Bishop Nine Mile Falls, WA 99026