



January 7, 2015

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: DMHC to require abortion services from churches

Dear Governor Brown,

The California Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) has ordered that all insurance plans cover elective abortions and categorize such abortions as "basic health care". Not only is abortion *not* health "care", but forcing provision for it is a slap in the face to churches and other businesses and non-profits who are strongly opposed to abortion because of their deeply-held religious beliefs and the obvious fact that abortion extinguishes human life. And it is tyranny.

The recent attacks on religious freedom nationwide have been stunning and unbelievable. Even the thought that such a fundamental right could be violated is abhorrent, but the fact that it is actually happening in court rooms all over this country is jaw-dropping. This is the very same country that was established by its first governing body on the foundation of religious freedom. Pilgrims and Puritans fled to this land and endured unimaginable hardships for the primary purpose of religious liberty. It is scandalous that, in a representative government, unelected judges and bureaucracies audaciously strip the inalienable rights of religious freedom and even life (via abortion) from its own citizens. Shameful!

CWA stands with Sen. Joel Anderson in protest of this proposed insurance mandate requiring churches and other business-owning men and women of conscience to provide abortion. I hope you will take a cue from the recent Hobby Lobby and Conestoga Wood Supreme Court rulings and put an end to religious persecution in the form of forcing American businesses, non-profits, and citizens to act in opposition to their religious conscience.

Governor Brown, since the DMHC is under your supervision, you have the power and responsibility to protect California citizens' religious freedom in this case. I hope you will do just that.

Concerned Women for America is the nation's largest public policy women's organization with more than 500,000 members. If you have any questions regarding CWA or our concerns in this matter, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Patricia Thompson
California State Director

Pat Del'Marmol
Northern California Area Director

Kori Peterson
Southern California Area Director

cc: Senator Joel Anderson, Pastor Jim Garlow

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