



Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice in

Michigan

PO Box 739 • East Lansing MI 48826 • www.mircrc.org

March 7, 2012

I write asking you to oppose SR 120.

While our member organizations are religiously and theologically diverse, they are unified in the commitment to preserve reproductive choice as a basic part of religious liberty.

We remind legislators that one person's individual religious liberty should not infringe on another's. One's religious liberty ends where another person's begins. These documents strike a blow at the cornerstone of this country's founding, democratic principles.

Christian, Jewish and Muslim national organizations support policies on contraceptive coverage and that services must be covered by most insurance policies without deductibles or co-pays, and that only purely sectarian organizations are exempt from this requirement. They seek to assure access under the law to all women, regardless of religious affiliation.

We respect individuals' moral agency to make decisions about their sexuality and reproductive health without governmental interference or legal restrictions. Specific religious doctrine does not belong in health care reform – as we value our nation's commitment to religion-state separation.

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We believe that women and men have the right to decide whether or not to apply the principles of their faith to family planning decisions, and to do so they must have access to services. Our leaders have the responsibility to safeguard individual religious liberty and to help improve the health of women, their children, and families. Hospitals and universities across the religious spectrum have an obligation to assure that individuals' conscience and decisions are respected and that their students and employees have access to this basic health care service.

Sincerely,

Joy Whitten

Pastor Robert Frederick