



# Resolution

## OPPOSING RELIGIOUS LIBERTY VIOLATIONS IN HEALTH CARE

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- WHEREAS** President Obama supported, and Congress passed, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), popularly referred to in the media as “Obamacare,” which contained the requirement that religious institutions must provide insurance coverage for employees and their families which would include contraceptives including those that would induce abortions, despite the moral or spiritual objections of such institutions;
- WHEREAS** Such a requirement violates the religious liberty protections inherent in, and appearing on the face of the First Amendment, particularly in the light of the recent unanimous decision by the United States Supreme Court which has underscored the right of faith organizations to possess religious autonomy from government interference regarding the decisions of those organizations to define their mission and beliefs.
- WHEREAS** Recently, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced that there would be no exemption for religious institutions that provide education and other social services to members of the public outside of their faith group, a decision that would negatively affect the vast majority of religious organizations that provide medical or health services;
- WHEREAS** On February 10, 2012 President announced a new modification of his health care plan, purportedly placing more of the burden on insurance companies rather than on religious institutions, to provide controversial services regarding contraceptives and abortion-inducing drugs; nevertheless, the key definitions, actual real-life implementation, and the effect of this modification is very much unknown;
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Religious Broadcasters hereby urges President Obama to give full faith and credit to the rights of religious autonomy of faith-based organizations, and to direct the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to implement a broad exemption that will protect, from the insurance mandate of providing coverage for contraceptives and abortion-inducing drugs, all religious institutions and organizations that have faith-based objections; and
- BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the National Religious Broadcasters urge Congress, if the Supreme Court does not strike down the PPACA in its entirety, to pass legislation providing a clear, broad exemption that will protect, from the insurance mandate of providing coverage for contraceptives and abortion-inducing drugs, all religious institutions and organizations that have faith-based objections.