



UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

July 14, 2014

David Green, CEO
Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc.
7707 S.W. 44th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73179

Dear Mr. Green:

I am writing to request that Hobby Lobby offer its Connecticut employees health insurance coverage with the full range of contraceptives approved by the FDA in compliance with our strong state law and policy of allowing individuals to choose the most appropriate health care services after consulting with their health care provider.

While the United States Supreme Court decision in *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc.* (slip opinion, June 30, 2014) may provide your company with legal discretion to limit health insurance coverage for a range of contraceptives in certain circumstances, Connecticut employees have been afforded health insurance coverage for contraceptives so long as the FDA has approved them and their physician has decided they are effective and appropriate. Connecticut's law mandates that all health insurance coverage through group or individual policies must provide "coverage for prescription contraceptive methods approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration. Conn. Gen. Stat. sections 38a-503c and 38a-530e. This legislation was approved with strong bi-partisan support and reflects broad public support. It is not only the law but also the strong well-established public policy of our state.

Further, Connecticut was in the forefront of one of the original United States Supreme Court cases establishing an individual right to privacy and right to contraceptives. In *Griswold v. Connecticut*, the articulate and esteemed Connecticut attorney, Catherine Roraback, successfully argued that state law prohibiting the sale of contraceptives violated the constitutional rights of women.

Complying with my request would be consistent with the legislative reform efforts in the wake of the United States Supreme Court decision. I am an original co-sponsor of The Protect Women's Health from Corporate Interference Act which has been introduced in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. This legislation will clarify the clear intent of Congress to provide equal and broad health insurance coverage for all forms of FDA approved contraceptives. Religious liberty is about individuals' right to practice their own religion, not the right of bosses to impose religious beliefs on employees.

Given our history of respect for individual rights and Connecticut's strong and clear public policy protecting access to all legally approved contraceptives as well as pending Congressional legislation, I urge you to ensure that any health insurance offered by Hobby Lobby to Connecticut employees comply with our state mandate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink, reading "Richard Blumenthal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Richard" and last name "Blumenthal" clearly legible.

Richard Blumenthal
United States Senate