

VICE CHAIR
OF THE FOLLOWING
COMMITTEES

PUBLIC SAFETY

JUDICIARY

ELECTIONS & CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENTS

Senate

California Legislature

JOEL ANDERSON
SENATOR

THIRTY-SIXTH SENATE DISTRICT

MEMBER
OF THE FOLLOWING
COMMITTEE
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW

MEMBER
OF THE FOLLOWING
SUBCOMMITTEE
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE #5 ON
CORRECTIONS, PUBLIC SAFETY
& THE JUDICIARY



Hon. Jerry Brown
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown,

My constituents and I are deeply troubled by the Department of Managed Health Care's (DMHC) assault on the religious liberties of 38-million Californians.

DMHC's August 22nd decision ordered all insurance plans in the state to immediately begin covering elective abortion procedures. According to DMHC, elective abortions must be covered under a 40-year-old state law requiring health plans to cover "basic health services." This new, unprecedented interpretation of 40-year old language creates a mandate that violates the free exercise rights of churches, businesses, and other non-profit organizations who are morally opposed to elective abortion.

In forcing churches, businesses, and other non-profit organizations to pay for a health plan that covers elective abortions for their employees, California is knowingly violating the federal law that protects the rights of individuals to freely exercise their deeply held religious beliefs and allows them to conscientiously object. This is a fundamental right for all Americans.

The U.S. Supreme Court's guidance on this issue in the context of contraceptives was clear. The fundamental right to freely exercise religious beliefs should not be infringed. Surely, if an organization's religious objection to providing contraceptive coverage, due to their belief that contraceptives are abortifacients, is enough to exempt them from providing contraception coverage, requiring these same organizations to purchase only health plans that provide coverage for elective abortions stands in direct opposition to the Supreme Court's effort to protect religious liberties.

I ask you, Governor Brown, to stand alongside me, my constituents, the undersigned faith community leaders, and concerned Californians throughout our state in protecting religious liberty and direct DMHC to reverse this unconstitutional mandate.

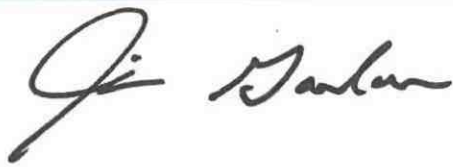
Sincerely,


Joel Anderson
Senator

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Pastor Jim Garlow

Skyline Church



Pastor Jack Hibbs

Cavalry Chapel Chino Hills



Fr. Edward Horning

Pastor St. Mary's Parish El Centro



Fr. Ben Davison

St. Kieran Parish El Cajon



Senior Pastor Rob Hubbard

Calvary Chapel Ramona



Pastor Michael Pontsler

The Life Church of North County



Rev. Anthony Sarok

Our Lady of Mt. Camel




Pastor Greg Phelps

Calvary Chapel Red Bluff



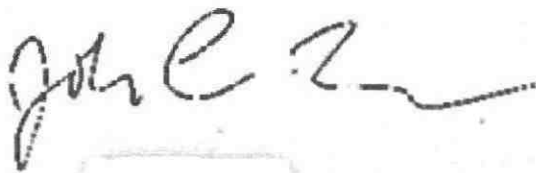
Senior Pastor Tim Brock

Calvary Chapel Davis



Senior Pastor Jeffery S. Gill

Calvary Chapel Running Springs



Pastor John C. Luna

Horizon Christian Fellowship Valley Center