

WASHINGTON –Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) applauded President Obama’s decision to address concerns raised by the religious community in the new contraception rule being enacted by the Department of Health and Human Services:

“As a strong supporter of healthcare reform and the plan to provide free preventative care - including contraception - to all Americans, I want to applaud President Obama for finding a path forward to provide coverage to everyone while addressing the conscience concerns of religiously-affiliated organizations.

“It's clear that the President listened to the concerns of religious organizations, like Catholic Health Association, and took them seriously. As Sister Carol Keehan said ‘we are pleased and grateful that the religious liberty and conscience protection needs of so many ministries that serve our country were appreciated enough that an early resolution of this issue was accomplished.’ The result will be that every woman in America, no matter where she works, will have access to free contraceptive services, while no religiously-affiliated institution will have to provide coverage for these services.

“In this politically charged environment, it is heartening to see that we can come together to find a path forward that protects the health needs of women while recognizing the conscience concerns of religious institutions.”

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