

Exhibit 307

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-70003

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Anonymous Anonymous

General Comment

My health is essential. You cannot permit a medical provider the right to refuse service because I am gay. I also fear that with this proposed regulation, a caregiver will have the right to refuse service to my daughter because the provider does not support her parents lifestyle. This is unconstitutional and goes against medical ethics.

Attachments

image

Exhibit 308

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Tracking No.: 1k2-9293-4yo6
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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-70081

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Mark Eckstein

General Comment

We have a trans son in elementary school and already face discrimination in our medical treatment; we don't need the HHS OCR to embolden even more medical professionals to treat us unfairly.

Exhibit 309

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-70318

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Nancy Garbati

Address: 33321

Email: ngarbati@live.com

General Comment

My husband and I were married for 26 years when he realized he was transgender and transitioned. The insurance company dropped me from the policy claiming we were lesbians and as such they didn't need to cover us. I went 4 years with no insurance because of this. We had a lawyer write them telling them that because we had been married as a man and woman they had to cover us because we were grandfathered in, but they ignored it. We could not afford to fight them.

Exhibit 310

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-70452

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Cynthia Durgan

General Comment

I am a teacher with transgender students and friends. They are good decent human beings and they deserve all the same opportunities in life that anyone else has. They certainly deserve the same access to health care. The obstacles they face in finding appropriate and respectful medical care are already unjust. To actually protect health care providers who wish to limit their services out of bigotry is an outrageous idea. Please, please, do not do this. Bigotry in the health care professions does not deserve protection, whether it arises from sincerely held religious beliefs or sincerely held plain stupidity. Do not protect bigotry. Protect my vulnerable students and my friends.

Exhibit 311

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-70725

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Anonymous Anonymous

General Comment

This proposal would disproportionately affect certain groups of Americans including members of the LGBTQ Community like myself. Codifying discrimination under the pretense of religious freedom is not in line with the U.S. Constitution. While I understand some medical providers may prefer not to treat individuals whose beliefs are not similar to their own, this particular legislation would be likely to come into play mainly in life-threatening circumstances. (There is some self-regulation here in that LGBTQ individuals do not want to seek medical care from a professional who outwardly despises them.) This regulation cannot be enforced and can only serve to negatively impact the demographics who already find it difficult to find quality healthcare. If an ER doctor is obligated by oath to treat a gunman with the same quality of care as his victims, they are already obligated to go against their religious beliefs. This proposal implies that murderers should have better access to healthcare than LGBTQ citizens.

Exhibit 312

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-70732

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Rebecca Wang

Address: 94577

Email: rebeccawang@gmail.com

General Comment

I am writing this comment because I am a queer woman with many friends who are also women and/or are queer (part of the LGBT community). I am also an attorney at an organization that does advocacy on behalf of people living with HIV.

I am concerned about this proposed rule because honestly, healthcare access is scary enough as it is right now. My friends and I have to very carefully navigate what clinics we go to, what providers we see because we are worried about putting ourselves in a potentially unsafe situation or in a situation where who we are is going to be under scrutiny. We're always worried about being harassed, scorned, or humiliated just by living our lives day to day and trying to access the same services as every one else. Believe me when I say there are enough healthcare providers already bring their personal biases into the way they provide care, completely ignoring the oath they took to do no harm. They already do not face any consequences for that behavior, which is truly disheartening.

I took an oath too when I became an attorney. I promised to serve the public and to live up to the standards of my profession. Attorneys have to diligently and zealously represent clients that they do not personally agree with all the time. If I failed to do that, if my colleagues failed to do that, then we would lose our jobs, get sued, lose our licenses, etc. Those consequences would be justified. That's the whole point of providing a public service and that includes preventing everyone from injecting their personal moral and religious beliefs into whether someone receives those services.

Please understand, I do not need my healthcare providers to joyously celebrate the fact that I am gay, or that my friends are transgender, or that women are perfectly capable of making family planning decisions for themselves. I just need them to do their job, the job they trained for, are licensed for, and swore to do. If healthcare providers are unwilling or unable to reconcile doing that job with their personal beliefs, that's fine, they can just leave the profession. I think that's a fair ask. I am even fine with my taxes going toward covering their unemployment benefits. If that seems extreme, asking providers to leave the field because of who they are, then know that it seems extreme to me that a doctor could choose not to see me or provide the care I need because of who I am.

This proposed rule to protect the conscience and beliefs of these providers means giving them a blank check to violate their professional ethics in favor of personal prejudices. I believe people should be free to practice their faiths, but that freedom is not unlimited because no rights in the U.S. are unlimited. All rights must necessarily be balanced against all other rights of all other people. Otherwise there no one would have any rights. We all agreed as a society to live within the confines of laws that restrict our freedom to act in certain ways, because that's what it means to be a part of a cohesive whole.

This proposed rule flies in the face of that agreement by infringing on my right to get healthcare services without being mistreated. It makes me and my friends and community less safe by insulating providers who discriminate. I personally, professionally, and morally object to it.

Exhibit 313

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-70895

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Jaye DelaVega

General Comment

The right to healthcare is a human one. As a trans woman, I am deeply disappointed in your lack of dedication to serve all Americans equally. I have a right to seek treatment as any cisgender-heterosexual person.

Using religious reasons as a means to discrimination in policy is unacceptable and textbook systematic discrimination. Do NOT Do This.

I WILL remember in November and turn Congress back over to the Democrats.

Exhibit 314

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71329

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Lance Chen-Hayes

General Comment

We're a same gender family with a gay son. We've had to seek out health care practitioners who are LGBT friendly. I'm also a health care practitioner. To allow healthcare discrimination would not only violate practitioners' ethical standards but also affect LGBT folks' access to health care.

Exhibit 315

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71341

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Tatim Brace

General Comment

As a transgender person living in poverty, I am constantly avoiding seeing the doctor, even when I have a serious health concerns because I never know how I'll be treated. In the past when I identified as a lesbian and had on-going gynecological concerns, I was discriminated against and made to feel ashamed and even fetishized for my sexuality by doctors. This is unacceptable.

Exhibit 316

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71348

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Leslie K Morrow

General Comment

Please do not allow bias, intimidation, and discrimination be written into law. As a Black queer person, I already face a system that treats me differently. My health matters and religious discrimination should not affect my chances for a healthy life!

Exhibit 317

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71367

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Kelsey Ryland

General Comment

As a queer person trying to start a family we could be discriminated against by providers or worse, our future children could miss critical care if a provider who does not discriminate isn't available in our area

Exhibit 318

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71385

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Anita Bradshaw

General Comment

I oppose the formation of the new division of "Conscience and Religious Freedom," as well as the proposal to allow healthcare professionals to discriminate against those who come seeking care just because they are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender. As someone who has pastored individuals who were discriminated against because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, this is a painful and harmful situation. It violates the oath health professionals take to provide care. It is immoral and it is wrong.

Exhibit 319

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71419

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Philip Kreis

General Comment

My wife was born intersexed. She is considered transgender and we rely on trans healthcare for her daily medications. We already drive 2 hours from Colorado Springs to Denver for qualified doctors that take our insurance. She needs this care to be able to function without pain at work. Reducing the number of doctors and prescriptions available will only make it harder for us to continue working and will further drain our time and money.

Exhibit 320

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71424

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Suzanne Null

General Comment

As a mother of a lesbian daughter and a gay son (in addition to two straight children), I am constantly concerned that they will receive appropriate health care. Our country promises "liberty and justice for all," and "all" includes my gay children, as well as my straight children. Do NOT approve this proposed "license to discriminate."

Exhibit 321

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71429

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Patrick Comerford

General Comment

As a queer patient, I have relied on the law's protection of me against discrimination whenever I had walked into a doctor's office. I don't know to what extent the potential prejudice of a doctor will result in a change in my medical care, and it's not something I can afford to worry about before seeking potentially lifesaving care. The doctor's office is NOT the place to enact anti-LGBTQ+ bias and is NOT the venue for discrimination under the guise of "religious freedom." As a queer Catholic who believes in his faith and his right to medical care I urge you not to move forward with this proposed rule.

Exhibit 322

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71435

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Oliver Kelly

General Comment

Do I not deserve health care because I'm trans?

Exhibit 323

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71459

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Aly Richardson

General Comment

As a transgender person, I've experienced hostile and rude healthcare workers in multiple places. If we exempt people from consequences for discrimination, I could be forced to change providers, and there are so few that cover my needs in the first place. Please don't put my health in danger.

Exhibit 324

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71479

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: K'Danz Cruz

General Comment

I am a transgender female and my procedures and medications are important to my health.

Exhibit 325

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71486

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Tristan Fitzpatrick

General Comment

As an LGBTQ person, my rights could be at stake with this proposed rule. I urge you to consider the impact it will have on myself and other LGBTQ people.

Exhibit 326

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71487

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Fernando Mena-Carraasco

General Comment

As a gay nurse, I have seen first-hand how biased and discriminatory practices affect patient care. This is especially important when you talk about gay, lesbian, transgender healthcare needs. Not responding well will cost us a great deal down the road. Eliminate the new Division - "Conscience and Religious Freedom" - as it is not necessary in our country.

Exhibit 327

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71513

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Oliver Reilly

General Comment

As a trans person, I know that my existence is problematic for many people, and they'd rather I not exist at all. Most of the time, no one knows I'm trans, but when I'm in healthcare settings, my medical history doesn't allow me to be invisible. I have been treated differently when a healthcare professional has discovered I'm trans. I have had smiling, cheerful interactions with healthcare professionals, which have suddenly stopped short and turned cold, distant, and unwelcoming, and at times downright mean and offensive when my identity is revealed. How has this affected me? It has made me and other trans people terrified to be in healthcare settings, which I avoid unless absolutely necessary. Yet, I also am aware this contributes to the health disparities that affect my community. As a trans person, I am less likely to receive routine checkups and tests to identify possible causes for concern, not because I am lazy, undereducated, or cannot afford it, but because I fear discrimination, because I fear that when my identity is apparent, I will become less human to those who are supposed to care and protect me.

Exhibit 328

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71528

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Jordan Truth

General Comment

An emergency department did not treat my urinary infection after a nurse practitioner made a disparaging comment about my trans body. I left and went to another emergency department that treated me.

Exhibit 329

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71546

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Lauren B

General Comment

I have seen queer, particularly trans, friends come back from experiences at their physicians' offices in tears, angry, disrespected. Oftentimes they delay getting healthcare when it is needed because the experience is so traumatic and the anxiety leading up to an appointment is problematic enough that the pain they are in or the illness they are experiencing is more tolerable than the trauma of the doctor. PLEASE do not let providers discriminate. I am lucky that I am able to pass as straight and am a cisgender woman, so I do not often have to worry about these things. I cannot say the same for so many people that I care about, and all of those in my community who I do not know. People can disagree over so many aspects of how we live our lives, more than just sexual orientation or gender identity, and none of that should impact a physician's duty to care for people as people. None of this is acceptable, and allowing LGBTQ+ folks to be discriminated against simply because they are queer or trans is morally reprehensible, just as discriminating against anyone is morally reprehensible. If providers feel so strongly that they cannot treat LGBTQ+ people, then they should not be physicians as they are not qualified to first, do no harm. Allowing people to discriminate in providing healthcare will directly lead to the suffering and death of so many people who do not have options in where they receive their healthcare. Research has shown this time and time again. All options should be safe for receiving necessary medical care. Do not let us continue sliding in the wrong direction by promoting lethal discriminatory practices.

Exhibit 330

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71555

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Cassidy Schroeder

General Comment

As a queer person with a chronic pain and disability, I need healthcare that is compassionate and comprehensive. Please do not enact legislation that will allow physicians not to view my well-being and health as the most important thing about me.

Exhibit 331

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71567

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Brandi Lai

General Comment

I graduate from my university soon and need hormone replacement therapy because I no longer have any hormones that are being produced by my body. I am lucky that I am able to have a hormone provider at my university but once I graduate that will disappear. I shouldn't have to fear my healthcare provider that they might discriminate against me or take physical violence against me. There are too many stories of people being left out on the street and being refused life saving medical care because the provider to treat someone. If you pass this, there will blood on your hands, blood of innocent lives that could of been saved.

Exhibit 332

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71580

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Maggie Weiserg

General Comment

My grand chid is transgender. They are thirty -one years old, in a loving relationship, with loving parents and grandparents. I want them to have good health care wherever they are, whenever they need it., with no extra hassles. This is how a just society works!

Exhibit 333

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71588

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Harley Paula Nelson

General Comment

I am post-op trans for 13 years. In for an exam, I've had medical students and residents come in for a "look". Last visit to my dentist and the front desk woman dead-named me- either by chance (as my name was legally changed 15 years ago-well before any contact with my dentist) or in contravention of HIPPA. HSS=legally sanctioned discrimination, only more of it.

Exhibit 334

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Submission Type: Web

Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71631

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: R Z

General Comment

As a transgender person, I should not be afraid to seek medical care because I may be turned away simply because of my sex at birth.

Exhibit 335

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Posted: March 29, 2018
Tracking No.: 1k2-929c-th15
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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71680

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Kathie Moehlig

General Comment

As the parent of a youth trans teen this would serenely impact his overall medical care. We are already struggling with not enough training for professionals but to allow a doctor or nurse the right to not treat when he is requiring medical attention is WRONG.

Exhibit 336

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71684

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Karari Olvera

General Comment

As a trans person of color, I want to know that doctors and other healthcare providers can't discriminate against me for their personal opinions on my life and my body. Their job is to help me medically, NOT to opine on my choices and decisions that have nothing to do with my physical health.

Exhibit 337

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71699

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Cole Parke

General Comment

As a trans person, my body and my gender are seen to be at odds with the beliefs held by some religious fundamentalists. It's fine for people to believe what they believe, but when it's their job to care for the health of others, they should be required to provide that care without imposing their individual beliefs on others by denying the care and respect that all people deserve based on a patient's sexual orientation or gender identity.

Exhibit 338

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71704

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Mark Johnston

General Comment

Despite being an upper-middle class white man with good insurance, I already find it difficult to find healthcare that meets my needs as a gay man. Beyond that, I am myself a healthcare provider and a Christian pastor. I find it appalling that our government wants to give permission to healthcare providers to discriminate on any basis. Discriminatory beliefs of a healthcare provider cannot have any place in determining who receives appropriate and skillful healthcare. A person who cannot provide services to all in need should not be in the business of providing healthcare.

Exhibit 339

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71738

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Sydney Sheffield

General Comment

The right to believe is absolutely fundamental. The right to discriminate is not. As a Queer American with chronic pain I'm terrified of being turned away from the doctors or hospital simply because of who I love. Those who wish to use religion to discriminate won't see me as the queer black woman who has chronic pain; instead they would likely refuse to treat me under the guise of religion just because I love women and gender non-binary folks. Our country is better than this forced unity between religion and state, this goes against what the founders so carefully planned. In addition, if this goes through, how long will it be before non-Christian people are turned away too? As someone who is both queer and a Christian, I do not think this discrimination is what God would want; Jesus always stood up for the outsiders after all. Please reconsider this regulation -- and make clear that discrimination has no place in this country, especially in healthcare.

Exhibit 340

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71773

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Helen and Paul Baumgartner

General Comment

One of our children has been in a long-term committed relationship and we consider his partner like another son. They would like to marry but this has not been possible yet. They are afraid of what might happen if one of them needs to be hospitalized and the other is denied family members' rights of visitation and care-giving.

Exhibit 341

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As of: June 22, 2019
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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71815

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Christina Ketcham

General Comment

As a Transgender Woman I have found Health Care access to be limited in my small rural Oregon Community. Allowing individuals to deny me emergency, routine or any health care is discrimination based on sex. I deserve access to health care. The slippery slope of discrimination in dichotomy 28th sex discrimination can result in horrible outcomes and does as is examples is Nation States where even attending school is denied women. My Nation doesn't year people down and leave them at risk through thoughtless discrimination. I urge you to deny discrimination based on sex by allowing the individual to harm another based on religious freedom.

Exhibit 342

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71836

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Laurie Sieve

General Comment

I am an academic nurse educator and the mother of a transgender son. Roger Severino is an ignorant person who has no accurate understanding of LGBTQ health. Do NOT add moral or religious exemptions!!!! There is a separation of church and state in this country.

Exhibit 343

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71847

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Cynthia Leiffer

General Comment

I am a lesbian and have been a primary care nurse practitioner in rural Maine for 21 years. Due to my own health problems, I had to give up my clinical practice last year. For many years, I was one of the only primary care providers in the greater Bangor area who had the knowledge and was willing to provide transgender hormone treatment for patients who needed that care. I developed a word of mouth practice where transgender and non-binary patients felt safe and welcomed, and could receive comprehensive primary care that included hormone treatment if they needed that. Prior to finding me, many of my patients had been getting hormones on the street or on the internet, because they could not find providers in the area who would see them and many of them couldn't travel down to Portland, where there were only a few welcoming providers available. Since I left my practice, I have continued to advocate for several of my patients who have now had trouble again finding providers who can give them the care that they need. I, and others in the area have made inroads into educating providers and health organizations in the state about LGBTQ health disparities and particularly transgender health needs, and now there are a few providers stepping up and acquiring the knowledge they need to offer this care. Many are still reluctant--some because of homophobia or transphobia, but others due to lack of knowledge and resources. If health care providers are allowed to legally discriminate and turn patients of any kind away, the slow progress we have made in battling the ongoing health disparities faced by LGBTQ people will only move backwards. I am on Disability now, but when I am able to, I continue to volunteer my time toward educating health care providers, as well as encouraging LGBTQ patients to advocate for themselves in a daunting and confusing health care system. I haven't had an easy career as a lesbian health care provider in a rural part of the country. I have had a lot of push back for my efforts and my views along the way, but taking care of underserved populations was what I set out to do when I became a nurse practitioner. My internal medicine practices over the years have also included a general adult population, but I often attracted a panel slanted toward elderly patients, people with mental health problems, people who use drugs, and the LGBTQ niche, because of my interest in helping the most disenfranchised underdogs in our community. It breaks my heart to see things getting worse now for these people, instead of better. I, myself, have gone from being a fairly comfortable upper middle class professional woman to someone on the verge of bankruptcy, all because of medical issues that led to my not being able to work anymore. This is shameful for the richest country in the world. I am lucky to have the education and knowledge to advocate for myself and the ability to access available resources and support. So many of my former patients do not have this. They rely on a fair and equitable health care system and providers who do not discriminate to help them navigate an often overwhelming bureaucracy.

Exhibit 344

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71869

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Devon Church

General Comment

I am a person who suffers with autoimmune conditions. Early in the process of my diagnosis, I was required to see hematology/oncology due to elevated lab values. When the hematologist discovered I am transgender, he informed me my needs should be serviced by a mental health professional, not a medical professional and he dismissed me from care. It took me months to find a hematologist would treat me. If healthcare providers are given the blanket ability to dismiss patients based on their religious or moral exemption, there is a high likelihood that certain specialties (such as hematology) may leave LGBT people locked out of care. There just are not that many hematologists. Likewise, if you need very specialized care, and there is only a handful of providers in the country, what would a person do then? It's very frightening.

Exhibit 345

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71877

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Ashley Alfe

General Comment

I have been frequently misgendered, and have often received invasive and alienating questions completely unrelated to my visit after it's discovered that I'm transgender (such as: being asked if I wear makeup or have had a nose job while at an optometrist, asked at a GP if my boyfriend "has had sex with women" when I'm a woman, etc.). I've received dirty looks, and had health care professionals aggressively refuse to gender me correctly, no matter how many times I correct them and/or show them my ID. I've read reports of the many times trans people have been denied service - even emergency, life-saving service - by health care workers prior to the Obama-era rule that prevented this, and I'm deathly afraid of my future under these new HHS rules. I've experienced as much discrimination in the health care sphere as workers would legally be allowed to subject me to, and now they'll be allowed to deny me service outright. It's terrifying, and I feel afraid to go to the doctor even in spite of my current fear that some symptoms I've been having might indicate my family's history of cancer has extended to me.

Exhibit 346

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71880

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Darlene Fike

General Comment

I was denied care by over 50 doctors because I am transgender and then I had to drive 4 hours to get the needed care. Do not allow this type of hate to continue.

Exhibit 347

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71890

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Fran Divine

General Comment

My son is gay, and as his proud mother I worry that he will not be treated fairly or treated at all. No one should have to worry! No one should have the right to withhold treatment because of sexual orientation, ever!

Exhibit 348

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71913

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Nancy Wichmann

General Comment

I am transgender. I have had occasions to be treated by doctors as though my trans-ness is contagious. If you go ahead with this, too many of use will turned away from all healthcare.

Exhibit 349

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71930

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Becky Easlick

General Comment

Discriminating impacts my son. This is not equality.

Exhibit 350

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71946

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Jennifer Williams

General Comment

If health professional can deny me medical care because I am transgender, I may not be able to receive necessary medications, examinations, mammograms or potentially - emergency medical care. As a Christian who is LGBT, my life or quality of life (and that of my family) should not depend on the personal Religious beliefs of a medical professional. I am very worried that this may be the case in the future.

Exhibit 351

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71954

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Brian Sharp

General Comment

As a gay male I know firsthand the heartbreak of being denied equal access to healthcare under the law. On more than one occasion I have been refused medical treatment and hospital visitation for my partner. As a healthcare professional, I find this behavior unconscionable, and the fact that our national government is considering giving such discrimination a "green light" makes me ashamed to call myself an American and afraid for those patients I serve.

Exhibit 352

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71955

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Anh Le

General Comment

As a bisexual and non-binary person, I have been treated differently when I go to health care providers. They assume that I am heterosexual and cisgender and base their treatment off of that assumption.

Exhibit 353

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71960

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Jody Huckaby

General Comment

I have a chronic disease that requires quarterly monitoring including blood lab work. I live in an area where I have few health insurance options (currently two). If healthcare providers are allowed to opt out of providing care to me because I am a gay American, My chronic disease could become a much more expensive life threatening disease that would ultimately cost me, other tax payers and/or the government more money for treatment. Seriously, after all of the progress this country has made on ending discrimination (which research clearly illustrates is bad for our economy) would be a major step backward. If this Administration wants to make America great again, then keep no discrimination as a primary value that sets our country apart from much of the rest of the globe. If we don't, we could find ourselves living in a country where male, white, heavy set, old people could find themselves without anyone willing to provide them with healthcare. Is that really what this president and his administration envisions when he said he wants to "make America great again"? Discrimination is about exclusion. Discrimination may not feel like a threat until it starts excluding you. Allow discrimination in healthcare today, and watch what classifications of Americans get added next. This country deserves better than this. I demand better than this for myself, for my family, for all of my loved ones, and for those I don't know who won't take the time to write today.

Exhibit 354

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Docket:HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On:HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document:HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71961

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information**Name:**Anonymous Anonymous**General Comment**

When I came out as transgender, I immediately began to feel better about myself. I was happier, healthier, and an all around better person than I had been prior to my coming out. However, other people didn't follow suit - instead of feeling better about me, people around me started to feel worse. This is especially prevalent in the health care experiences I've had. It is common knowledge that the best thing for a transgender person experiencing disruptive dysphoria is transition. However, barriers are vast - multiple health care professionals must agree that you are transgender and advocate for your treatment as such. The perceived legitimacy of my gender identity is not in my hands, as it should be - it rests in the hands of my doctors. It's scary, then, that so many doctors are disgusted, scared, or sometimes even amused by the idea of treating a trans person. I am lucky enough that I am able to choose when to tell someone that I am trans and when not to (this passing privilege is something not all of us have). One example I've experienced was this: I had recently moved to a new city, and I needed a new doctor. I finally got an appointment with a physician, and she was very pleasant. However, towards the end of the appointment, I explained that I am transgender and that this information is vital to many aspects of my health care. She was stunned, and instantly moved herself farther away from me as if being near me would be harmful to her. She stuttered but finally managed to say, "That's not something I do." I asked what she meant and she said that she does not "understand the transgenders" or "know what any sort of health care for them would look like," talking about trans people as if one wasn't right in front of her. I was forced to find another physician - I had to try three more before finally going to a LGBT health clinic with fewer resources and less funding than the practices I had been to before. I have seen this over and over again - therapists, endocrinologists, general practitioners, and even emergency room staff have either struggled with my care or refused to give it. When I was young, I was taken to the emergency room due to an emotional breakdown and suicidal tendencies that my mother didn't know how to handle. After being placed on a suicide watch and waiting two hours (until around 3 AM) for a mental health professional to arrive, I was dismissed with nothing but a simple comment from that person - "This is just because he's gay. I mean, look at him. This is not a real thing." I was later referred to a psychiatrist who misdiagnosed me several times, prescribed heavy drugs that were inappropriate for my age and condition, and argued against my attending college. Nevermind the fact that I've had to go through literal dozens of therapists before finding one that would provide me with treatment. All of these things would not have happened if I had been cisgender. It's possible that my experience with the health care system in America would have been positive or neutral. Keep in mind that I am a white transgender woman. I have struggled, but my struggles are dwarfed by the intense discrimination that transgender people of color experience in the health care system (and in society in general) every single day. It is not acceptable. If the US wants to lead the word, we have to start acting like leaders. Providing more physicians with more ways to legally discriminate against LGBT people will only set the country back. Sure, it might make some voters smile as they laugh at the struggles of people they've never met, will never meet, and will never understand. However, in the long run, you're not helping them - you're hurting us, our children, and future generations of America. This is not about religion - it's about needing health care professionals to do their jobs. We the people of the United States of America beg you to reconsider this idea and take into account the experiences

of LGBT people around the nation - the ones who would actually be affected by your actions. Do with this message what you will, but know one thing - we are not going anywhere, and we will not stand for this.

Exhibit 355

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71970

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Allison N

General Comment

Like everyone else, I want to be able to be honest and unafraid with my healthcare provider. As a queer woman, I should not have to watch my words and focus on not revealing my sexual orientation when trying to communicate sexual health issues. It is my right to be given health services regardless of the gender identity of who I am attracted to. Attraction should have nothing to do with healthcare, it is irrelevant.

Exhibit 356

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: June 22, 2019
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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71973

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Monica Sicard

General Comment

I am a 100% disabled veteran who lives in a rural area with no doctors. I have to use non-VA doctors in Astoria Oregon for care using community care. So this legislation would leave me health care what so ever!! Is this how I am thanked for serving?? This legislation is an atrocity filled with hate. This is not what I fought for as a soldier in the US Army. I fought for everyone of you so your rights would be preserved on my watch. NOW where are you when mine are threatened... Who Will STAND for me???? I pray it's you.

Exhibit 357

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71976

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Anonymous Anonymous

General Comment

I am a military spouse who happens to be transgender. Surgery to allow me to live comfortably, while provided, with waivers, for military members, are denied to their dependent family members. So, the medically necessary surgery will likely cost our military family around \$20,000 out-of-pocket. This includes our travel expenses (we're stationed overseas), lodging, and airfare. It will cost my active duty spouse most of his accrued leave for a year in order to care for me. The lack of coverage puts a HUGE strain on our military readiness as a nation. ALL family members of military members should receive equal care and health coverage when treatments are medically necessary.

Exhibit 358

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71977

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Trudy Faber

General Comment

Several friends and students of mine have been transgender. They are all wonderful people. Remember, just like you, GOD MADE THEM. How cruel that bigots have acted against them. When they have been able to adjust to their real selves, which GOD MADE, and are not tormented, they are people who can make important contributions to our society.

Exhibit 359

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Tracking No.: 1k2-929e-tnwt
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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71994

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Jenea Ylinen

General Comment

I have a family history of ovarian cancer. I don't want to be told I can't have a hysterectomy because of my age and that I need to procreate. I also have many in my life, including myself, that are part of the lgbt community. I don't want us to have to be afraid of being turned away from medical care just because of who we are.

Exhibit 360

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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-71996

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Ben Power

General Comment

I am a transgender man who is living with two life-threatening illnesses. If my providers could discriminate against me by denying me care or by disrespecting me, I would not survive the denial of the needed surgeries and chemotherapy I get which keeps me alive.

Exhibit 361

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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72062

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Michelle McKay

General Comment

I've been refused treatment before for no other reasons than being transgender. If one cannot treat everyone equally, one should not practice.

Exhibit 362

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72067

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Susan Norris

General Comment

I do not expect either my daughter or her daughter, or her wife to be given anything less than the highest standard of care when they are sick. Do you really worry about the opinions, gender ID, wealth, skin color, language etc. of people who are hurt or sick or injured. Such behavior IMMORAL. All religious faiths demand kindness and aid to strangers, the sick, ill, lost, etc. We even rescue enemy soldiers and care for them. NO way is "religious opinion" allowed as an excuse not to treat by any decent practitioner.

Exhibit 363

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72069

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Jennifer Miracle-Best

General Comment

We have a dear friend who almost lost his life due to this kind of discrimination. While recovering from a hysterectomy, our friend was resting at home when he discovered that he was bleeding profusely. He called 911 and the paramedics that arrived refused to treat him after discovering he was recovering from a hysterectomy which was part of his transition from female to male. Eventually a second ambulance arrived with paramedics who treated him, but not before our friend lost consciousness. This was a life-threatening situation and the first paramedics opted out of trying to save him. Thankfully, he lived to tell the story of this traumatic experience, but he still deals with PTSD as a result. As someone who is married to a trans person, I always worry about my spouse seeing a new doctor or heaven forbid being in an emergency situation like this one and being denied care because of who he is.

Exhibit 364

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72072

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Kris Guin

General Comment

I'm a transgender man on the autism spectrum, and I rely on robust, inclusive health care. Without it, my health would be in jeopardy. I don't want to be scared to go to the doctor.

Exhibit 365

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72075

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Athena Roberts

General Comment

I could be denied healthcare and left to die on the road by emergency workers. That has already happened to other transgender people.

Exhibit 366

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72083

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Jane Latus

General Comment

My transgender son's LIFE depends upon ongoing health care being delivered to him - as it should be to everyone - according to his medical needs and without discrimination or judgement.

Exhibit 367

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72094

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Anthony Glover

General Comment

I am an African American gay man who is old enough to remember how discrimination affected me and so many of my friends decades ago because we were perceived to be HIV positive or living with AIDS. Today, that stigma still resonates as the majority of new HIV infections among African Americans occurs among gay and bisexual men like myself. Be it at dental offices, private medical offices, or hospitals, health professionals who have so-called religious pretexts for discriminating should not be allowed to do so against people like who are gay or bisexual. They could even offer such religious reasons as a pretext for discrimination for any man who is HIV+ or living with AIDS by assuming he is gay or bisexual. No one should be given a license to discriminate based on their religious beliefs.

Exhibit 368

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72099

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Ellen Heid

General Comment

Dear Health and Human Services, As a Transmale person I have been discriminated against so much in trying to get simple health care it is abominable. Just because my face does not match my driver's license because I've been on hormones, I get questions when picking up my medication. Doctor's and nurses and EMT's denying services because they simply do not agree with my existence and effectively allowing me to die if they wish is not just discrimination it is crazy. Please stop this nonsense. Thank you.

Exhibit 369

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72106

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Denise Johnston

General Comment

As a parent of a gay son, I am very concerned about the discrimination and the adverse, potentially fatal, ramifications of this horrific policy. Think about it - what would you do if it were your son or daughter, or even you, who would suffer the consequences of this?

Exhibit 370

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72129

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Rowan Everard

General Comment

I am trans and have already had an incredibly difficult time finding a doctor who will see me. These rules will make that even worse.

Exhibit 371

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Docket: HHS-OCR-2018-0002

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72133

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: George Rommerro

Address: 94608

Email: garommerro@gmail.com

Organization: None

General Comment

This proposed rule will allow doctors, nurses, and other healthcare providers the ability to discriminate against transgender people in the guise of "religious freedom".

When I was coming out as transgender, I had a difficult time finding a doctor who was willing to treat me, and I live in the San Francisco Bay Area. I cannot imagine how difficult it is for transgender people in more conservative areas of the country to find healthcare providers who are willing to treat them.

Most transgender people want and need hormone replacement therapy in order to be comfortable in their bodies. If you adopt this regulation, you will be signing the death sentence of many transgender people in this country. Which, now that I think about it, is probably what you want.

Exhibit 372

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72146

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Mary Deridder

General Comment

I have a gay daughter and she should have the same right as her twin sister to have adequate health care. She should not be denied care as it was not her choice to be born this way.

Exhibit 373

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Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Comment On: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-0001

Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority

Document: HHS-OCR-2018-0002-72150

Comment on FR Doc # 2018-01226

Submitter Information

Name: Mary Buchanan

General Comment

As a parent of a gay daughter and as a healthcare worker, I am appalled that anyone thinks it's ok to refuse treatment based on someone's sexual orientation or religious beliefs. I have never refused helping someone based on this or for any other reason. The medical field is made up of people who agree to do no harm. If this decision is made to allow people in the medical community to refuse any and all treatment, then as a country, we have surely lost all common decency. Any medical professional who refuses to treat any person based on sexual orientation or by religious beliefs should lose their license or certification to work in the healthcare industry. I have worked in 3 different areas of the healthcare industry and this is a dangerous game that will cost someone their life.