



## CATHOLIC CALL TO ACTION

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Religious Liberty is asking faithful Catholics to express their opposition to new health care regulations proposed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). If enacted, these regulations would enable religious discrimination against any health care worker who conscientiously objects to performing gender transition procedures, regardless of whether that objection is a matter of religious belief or of clinical judgment. The Committee on Religious Liberty indicates that the proposed regulations may ultimately be used by the HHS to determine that Section 1557 imposes similar mandates with regard to abortion.

The proposed regulation of the Biden Administration is deceptively included as part of the nondiscrimination provision of the Affordable Care Act, to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Although the HHS says health care workers and health care organization can notify the federal government of their objections to the provisions based on conscience and religious freedom, there is no guarantee that the federal government would allow these individuals and organizations to follow their beliefs.

Bishop Michael Olson joins the Committee for Religious Liberty in urging Catholics to file comments with HHS opposing these harmful aspects of the proposed regulation that would expose our Catholic health care workers and organizations to penalties for maintaining the integrity of their Catholic and clinical judgment.

Your comments must be submitted no later than October 2, 2022.

Detailed information about the Section 1557 proposed regulations and how to lodge your objections to the harmful aspects of the regulation can be found at the website: [www.usccb.org/do-no-harm](http://www.usccb.org/do-no-harm)