



\*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\*

For Immediate Release  
February 16, 2012

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## ***Citizens' Council for Health Freedom:* Latest Attack on Religious and Health Freedoms is One of Many from Obama**

### *Controversial Mandate About Conscience, Not Contraception*

**St. Paul, Minn.**— A week after the Obama Administration seemingly “compromised” on the birth control mandate that created a nationwide religious liberty debate, Americans around the country are sending the message loud and clear that the issue is not one of contraception—but of conscience.

Patient advocates in particular are up in arms about the attack on freedoms—another in a long line of many over the past three years.

Among them is **Twila Brase**, president and co-founder of **Citizens' Council for Health Freedom (CCHF)**, a patient-centered national health policy organization based in St. Paul, Minn.

***“Last year, Citizens' Council for Health Freedom reported that the Obama Administration gutted conscience protections for healthcare workers, stripping nearly all the words from President Bush's previous protections,” Brase said. “The protections—once at 32,000 words—were slashed to 208. Based on this newest attack on Americans' freedoms, there is no doubt that Obama's plan is to obligate citizens to do whatever the government says. And that plan tramples on countless individual rights, such as rights of conscience, religion, life, liberty and property, as well as our states' rights.”***

Opponents of the Obama mandate say that employers who have moral or religious objections to covering contraception, the morning-after pill or sterilization should have the same opt-out rights as a religious institution. CCHF goes farther, saying that there should be no mandate from which to opt out. The issue is parallel with one that **Brase** and **Citizens' Council for Health Freedom**

have been fighting for months—the mandate requiring all individuals to purchase health insurance. That directive is unconstitutional, **Brase** says, and will ultimately be detrimental for doctor-patient relationships and overall patient care and privacy.

***“This issue is not just about religion,” Brase said. “In fact, there are many who object who aren’t religious at all. It’s about forcing the American people to march to the federal government’s orders—which is why we remain strongly opposed to the entire Affordable Care Act, known as Obamacare. If this is allowed to happen, it is just the beginning of what we’ll all be forced to do in the name of a political agenda.”***

**Twila Brase** broadcasts a daily, 60-second radio feature, ***Health Freedom Minute***, which brings health care issues to light for the American public. ***Health Freedom Minute*** airs on the entire American Family Radio Network, with more than 150 stations nationwide in addition to Bott Radio Network with over 80 stations nationwide. During the daily features, **listeners can learn more about the agenda behind proposed health care initiatives and policies and what they can do to protect their health care choices, rights and privacy.**

**Brase**, a public health nurse and health care freedom advocate, informs listeners of crucial health issues, such as the intrusive wellness and prevention initiatives in Obamacare, patient privacy and the need for informed consent requirements, the dangers of “evidence-based medicine” and the implications of state and federal health care reform.

***Health Freedom Minute*** is sponsored by the ***Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom***, a freedom-focused, patient-centered national health care organization based in St. Paul, Minn. **CCHF** supports patient and doctor freedom, medical innovation and the right of citizens to a confidential patient-doctor relationship.

For more information about ***Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom***, visit [www.cchfreedom.org](http://www.cchfreedom.org).

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**For more information or to interview Twila Brase, president and co-founder of Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom, contact Michael Hamilton, Hamilton Strategies, 215.519.4838, 610.584.1096, [MHamilton@HamiltonStrategies.com](mailto:MHamilton@HamiltonStrategies.com)**

***Twila Brase is president and co-founder of the Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom. She has been called one of the “100 Most Powerful People in Health Care” and one of “Minnesota’s 100 Most Influential Health Care Leaders.” The Council’s efforts have stopped government-issued treatment directives, added informed consent requirements for access to patient data and defeated a proposed Health Insurance Exchange. Brase’s daily radio commentary, Health Freedom Minute, is a 60-second radio address on pressing health care issues.***

***Brase has been interviewed by CNN, Fox News, Minnesota Public Radio, NBC Nightly News, NBC’s Today Show, NPR, New York Public Radio, the Associated Press, Modern Healthcare, TIME, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post and The Washington Times, among others.***