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From: VanDyke, Lawrence
Sent: Monday, March 18, 2013 11:56 AM
To: Fox, Tim
Cc: Barnes, John
Subject: HHS Contraception Mandate Letter from Alabama

Tim – We discussed whether we should join Alabama’s letter to the HHS regarding problems with the HHS’s religion exception to its contraception mandate. My though is that the letter looks great, and the only reason we wouldn’t join is because Montana, as a result of a Montana Supreme Court ruling, has for some time now required that contraception coverage be included in all insurance coverage. So joining something like this could open us up to criticism for being inconsistent, pot calling the kettle black, etc.

You asked me to remind you about it this week. The letter will go out this Thursday, March 21, so our decision whether to join is probably due by Wednesday, March 20. I’m looping John Barnes in just in case he has any thoughts/concerns about adverse media if we join (or don’t).

As of this past Friday, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Colorado, and Oklahoma had committed to joining the letter.

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