



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

Voice - (800) 368-1019

TDD - (800) 537-7697

FAX - (415) 437-8329

<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/>

**Office for Civil Rights, Pacific Region**

**90 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 4-100**

**San Francisco, CA 94103**

April 10, 2018

**SENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

Ms. Elissa Graves, Esq.  
Alliance Defending Freedom  
15100 N. 90<sup>th</sup> Street  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260

Re: OCR Transaction Number 17-282090

Dear Ms. Graves:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights (OCR) received your complaint dated September 12, 2017, filed on behalf of Calvary Chapel Pearl Harbor, d/b/a A Place for Women in Waipio, against the State of Hawaii (the "Complaint").

Under Federal regulations, OCR is designated to receive complaints based on the Federal laws that protect conscience and prevent coercion, including the Weldon Amendment,<sup>1</sup> the Coats-Snowe Amendment,<sup>2</sup> and the Church Amendments.<sup>3</sup> OCR has reviewed the Complaint and has determined that it has sufficient authority and cause to investigate the allegations under one or more of these laws. Therefore, we have initiated an investigation and will contact you should we need any additional information. In the meantime, if you have documentation supporting your claim that you have not yet provided OCR, including correspondence, letters of notification, or documents regarding the State of Hawaii's official position on these matters, please provide copies of those documents at your earliest convenience. When we reach a determination regarding your Complaint, we will advise you of our findings.

If you have any questions, please contact David Hyams, Senior Enforcement Advisor, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, (303) 844-7298, [David.Hyams@hhs.gov](mailto:David.Hyams@hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

Michael Leoz  
Regional Manager

<sup>1</sup> Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, Pub. L. No. 115-31, Div. H, Tit. V, § 507(d), 131 Stat. 135, 562 (2017).

<sup>2</sup> 42 U.S.C. § 238n.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* § 300a-7.