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8  
 9 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
 10 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
 11

12 **THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA; THE**  
 13 **STATE OF DELAWARE; THE STATE OF**  
 14 **MARYLAND; THE STATE OF NEW**  
 15 **YORK; THE COMMONWEALTH OF**  
 16 **VIRGINIA,**

4:17-cv-05783-HSG

**DECLARATION OF REVEREND SUSAN RUSSELL**

Plaintiffs,

v.

17 **ALEX M. AZAR, II, IN HIS OFFICIAL**  
 18 **CAPACITY AS SECRETARY OF THE U.S.**  
 19 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN**  
 20 **SERVICES; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF**  
 21 **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES; R.**  
 22 **ALEXANDER ACOSTA, IN HIS OFFICIAL**  
 23 **CAPACITY AS SECRETARY OF THE U.S.**  
 24 **DEPARTMENT OF LABOR; U.S.**  
 25 **DEPARTMENT OF LABOR; STEVEN**  
 26 **MNUCHIN, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS**  
 27 **SECRETARY OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF**  
 28 **THE TREASURY; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF**  
**THE TREASURY; DOES 1-100,**

Defendants,

and,

25 **THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR,**  
 26 **JEANNE JUGAN RESIDENCE; MARCH**  
 27 **FOR LIFE EDUCATION AND DEFENSE**  
 28 **FUND,**

Defendant-Intervenors.

1 I, Reverend Susan Russell, declare:

2 1. I am an ordained Episcopal priest and Senior Associate at All Saints Church in  
3 Pasadena, California - a church that has been prayerfully pro-choice since 1992 and a  
4 denomination that has supported a woman's access to birth control since the 1930s.

5 2. The core values of my faith tradition include striving for justice and respecting  
6 dignity of every human being. Respecting human dignity requires supporting the choices women  
7 make about when and if to become pregnant. The ability to plan, prevent, and space pregnancies  
8 is linked to benefits to women, men, children and a just society, including more educational and  
9 economic opportunities, healthier babies, more stable families and reduced taxpayer burden.

10 3. I am a member of the Clergy Advocacy Board of Planned Parenthood. As a member  
11 of the Board since 2013 I have been honored to stand with people of faith whose support for  
12 reproductive health care is firmly rooted in their faith.

13 4. The Clergy Advocacy Board builds on the long history of faith leaders taking an  
14 active role in reproductive health care and has been working for more than two decades with  
15 Planned Parenthood at the national and state levels to further the goal of full reproductive rights  
16 and freedom for all women and men. Its members, who are dedicated clergy and faith leaders  
17 from different denominations and communities throughout the U.S., lead a national effort to  
18 increase public awareness of the theological and moral basis for advocating reproductive health.

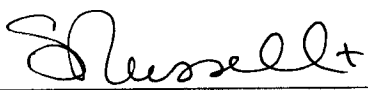
19 5. The Clergy Advocacy Board is called to serve as pastors to people making medical  
20 decisions. Our experience teaches that a woman's health care is between her and her doctor. As  
21 religious leaders, embracing the truth in faith alongside the truth in medical science, we believe  
22 that our households and families should be allowed to benefit from advances in modern day  
23 health care, contraception included. Our various faith heritages bring us to teach that the Divine  
24 Presence enters and blesses all our relationships, separate and apart from our becoming parents.  
25 We affirm that God graces each of us with a conscience that includes the capacity to set the  
26 course of our lives and families. All this speaks to why, from the earliest days of the family  
27 planning movement in the United States, clergy from a wide spectrum of faiths have embraced  
28 family planning as a moral good.

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6. For these reasons, the Clergy Advocacy Board condemns the Trump administration's attempts to use morality and religion to undermine access to contraception. Too many families today are facing financial challenges and crises. We believe that every individual should have the religious freedom and freedom of conscience to choose and consistently use the contraception that works best for them.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and of my own personal knowledge.

Executed on December 6, 2018 in Pasadena CA

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
The Reverend Susan Russell  
Clergy Advocacy Board of  
Planned Parenthood