



**Testimony**  
**Senate Health and Long Term Care Committee**  
**Senate Joint Memorial 8032**  
**February 1, 2006**

Good Afternoon Senator Keiser and members of the Committee. My name is Matt Muckler and I am the Legislative Director for the Washington State Catholic Conference, which represents the Catholic bishops of the State of Washington on issues on public policy.

I am here today to oppose Senate Joint Memorial 8032. Plan B is essentially an “overdose” of birth control pills, which do require a prescription. It is marketed and advertised as a "contraceptive" but its own proponents admit that it works before and after conception. This type of morning-after pill has been associated with a heightened risk of ectopic pregnancy and a few deaths.

The Memorial encourages that this powerful and potentially abortifacient drug be made available over-the-counter to anyone. Theoretically, that could include a very young girl. At the very least, we should encourage women or girls to seek the advice of their physician. We believe that making Plan B available over the counter could pose a significant health risk to women.

We thank you for your consideration.