DATE

To President \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I am an (incoming or current) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_(UNIVERSITY)\_ . I am extremely grateful for my experience as a student of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ program. I am excited to expand my knowledge of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ through courses here at \_\_\_\_(UNIVERSITY)\_\_\_\_. My hopes are that learning about \_\_(MAJOR)\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_(MINOR/etc)\_\_\_ will help me \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (in my future career, etc)

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, affirm that the immunizations required by \_\_(UNIVERSITY)\_\_ are contrary to my long standing religious tenets and practices. On this basis, as the above referenced immunization requirements violate my right to freely exercise my religion as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution of The United States of America, the various State Constitution, and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended Nov.1 1980; Part 1605.1- Guidelines on Discrimination Because of Religion, I am asserting my rights to an exemption from Roger Williams University immunization requirements.

I request that all statements expressed in this religious exemption letter remain confidential. The only reason I am sharing the contents within this letter is because by law I am required to do so. I request that this be kept 100% completely confidential as it contains thoughts, sentiments, and beliefs not expressed in casual conversation.

I hereby declare, that being a person of Strong Religious Morals, it is against my Deep, Sincerely Held, Religious Convictions to accept the injection of any foreign substance into my Body. This includes, but is not limited to, any and all, Vaccinations, Shots, Oral Vaccines, Epidermal Patches and in any other way that Live or Killed Bacterium, Viruses, Pathogens, Germs, or any other Microorganisms, may be introduced into or upon my body.

This written statement shall exempt me from any ***immunizations*** and ***medical testing procedures*** because I hold genuine and sincere personal religious beliefs which are inconsistent with these medical procedures. The practice of vaccination and the injection or application of any foreign substance is contrary to my conscientiously held religious beliefs and practices and violates the free exercise of my religious principles.

A conflict arises because my religious convictions are predicated, but not limited to, the following Scriptures.

***1 Corinthians 6:19-20***

*What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.*

It is among my deepest convictions that I am to treat my own body as the Temple of God. I believe that I do not own my body, my body has been given to me by God. I am to own it and steward it the way God guides me to.

It is also within my sincerest held personal beliefs that life begins at Conception. In the Bible, life begins in the womb, and for me it does. The current available vaccines are tested using aborted fetal cell lines. Other vaccines contain aborted fetal cells. It conflicts with my beliefs to make use of these products which benefit from practices which I hold to be religiously unethical.

***Jeremiah 1:4***

*Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.*

Before Mary birthed Jesus she was “with child”. For me the child’s life begins at conception.

***Matthew 1:18***

*Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.*

***Luke 1:41***

*When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.*

In addition, I hold deeply that compulsory vaccine policies are inherently immoral. The Bible prohibits compulsory vaccine policies because their very notion usurps body sovereignty which is Biblically imperative and outlined in Leviticus 25:55. As a follower of the Holy Scriptures I reject any form of bodily subjugation to any human overlord irrespective of alleged benefit to oneself or ones community. As a Bible observant individual, I am obligated to reject mandatory vaccine policies imposed by any human authority or institution. To me, no human authority or policy can override the bodily sovereignty which has been endowed upon me by God. Compulsory vaccination mandates are discriminatory policies that marginalize a non vaccinated minority. The Bible strictly prohibits apartheid in Deuteronomy chapter 14:1. Consequently, even if a particular vaccine were ethically palpable and free of religiously problematic ingredients, the very fact that it is being used to sanction discriminatory policies against individuals who do not, cannot, or will not vaccinate makes it morally odious and unacceptable to Biblical law. By complying and lending one’s support to such a mandatory compulsory policy, one is effectively complicit in tyranny and discrimination prohibited by Bible law. The more people who comply with this unjust policy the more marginalized the discriminated community will become. Ascribing to Biblical Law, it is within my sincerest held beliefs that discrimination is never okay, and the ends do not justify the means. The Bible does not allow us to deprive any children of an education or a livelihood.

Applicable law has been interpreted to mean that a religious belief is subject to protection even though no religious group espouses such beliefs or the fact that the religious group to which the individual professes to belong may not advocate or require such belief. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended Nov. 1, 1980; Part 1605.1-Guidelines on Discrimination Because of Religion.

My legal rights are guaranteed by the free exercise clause of the **First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution**. Recent court decisions have upheld the rights of individuals seeking exemptions from immunizations based upon personal and religious reasons. On the **U.S. Supreme Court level in Frazee V. Illinois Dept. of Security, 489 U.S. 829**, it was found that a state may not deny an exemption simply because a person is not a member of a formal religious organization.

The Lord, Our Creator is the only source of protection of my body that I can accept.

I affirm that vaccination & injections of any foreign substances and proteins conflict with my religious beliefs as stated above. Therefore, I expect that you will not discriminate or treat me differently for my religious beliefs and practices by recognizing that I am exempt from any vaccinations or injections. I am not to be segregated or treated differently for my faith, since doing so would interfere with the free exercise of my religious rights.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, certify that the above statements are true, accurate, and correct concerning my faith and religious beliefs.

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