



**Planned Parenthood®
of Louisville**

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Commissioner Mark McClellan
Food and Drug Administration
500 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Commissioner McClellan:

I am writing to express my support for making Emergency Contraception (EC) available over-the-counter. As an employee of Planned Parenthood of Louisville, I have seen firsthand the difficulty women experience when trying to acquire EC. Because of the limited window of time within which EC works, it is imperative that women and their partners have easier access to this medication.

As you know, research indicates widespread availability of emergency contraception could prevent 1.7 million unintended pregnancies and 800,000 abortions each year in the United States. Family planning organizations like Planned Parenthood strongly support over-the-counter availability because, despite what our opposition would have the public believe, one of our ultimate goals is to decrease the need for abortions by preventing unwanted pregnancies.

The recent case in Denton, TX, where a pharmacist refused to fill an EC prescription for a rape victim, is only further proof that EC should be available over the counter. This is an unacceptable imposition of personal ideology on the rights of sexual assault survivors, and it undermines the private decision that has been made by a woman and her doctor.

Government oversight of medicine is meant to protect and enhance public health, and improved access to emergency contraception does just that. The FDA should move quickly to expand the availability of emergency contraception nationwide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne B. McKune".

Anne McKune
Director of Public Affairs
Planned Parenthood of Louisville

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