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**CONTACT: Kim Colby, Director, Center for Law & Religious Freedom  
(703) 894-1087, kcolby@clsnet.org**

## **HHS MANDATE POSES A GRAVE THREAT TO RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND PLURALISM IN AMERICA**

*“Religious liberty is among America’s most distinctive contributions to humankind,” explained David Nammo, executive director of Christian Legal Society. “But it is fragile and too easily taken for granted. By sharply departing from our nation’s historic, bipartisan tradition of respecting religious conscience, the HHS Mandate poses a grave threat to religious liberty and pluralism.”*

Christian Legal Society, the Association of Christian Schools International, and the American Association of Christian Schools yesterday urged the United States Supreme Court to uphold the religious liberty of the Little Sisters of the Poor and numerous other religious charities and schools.

Together, we have urged the Court to protect all Americans’ religious liberty by accurately applying the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (“RFRA”). Religious charities and religious schools should not be burdened by the federal government’s controversial requirement that religious objectors pay for drugs that they believe end human lives.

If the Supreme Court sides with the government, “government regulators could burden religious practice with little fear of being successfully challenged in court” in a host of contexts.

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***About Christian Legal Society:***

Christian Legal Society was instrumental in the enactment of RFRA, the federal law that has been the guardian of Americans’ religious freedom since its bipartisan, virtually unanimous passage by Congress in 1993. Christian Legal Society is a nationwide association of Christians dedicated to serving Jesus Christ through the practice and study of law, the defense of religious freedom, and the provision of legal aid to the poor.

***About Little Sisters of the Poor v. Burwell:***

The Supreme Court is expected to hear oral argument in late March 2016 in the cases of *Little Sisters of the Poor v. Burwell*, No. 15-105, *Zubik v. Burwell*, No. 14-1418, *Geneva College v. Burwell*, No. 15-191, *East Texas Baptist University v. Burwell*, No. 15-35, *Southern Nazarene University v. Burwell*, No. 15-119, *Roman Catholic Archbishop of Washington, v. Burwell*, No. 14-1505, and *Priests for Life v. Burwell*, No. 14-1453.

**[CLS Brief: Little Sisters of the Poor v. Burwell](#)**