

**Statement by Covenant Health:**

Canadians have fundamental rights and freedoms of belief and conscience under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. In protecting the conscience rights of health providers, Bill 207 supports a health care system where many different partners--including people and organizations of all faiths and traditions--are welcomed and able to work effectively together to meet the needs of all Albertans. Covenant is a key partner in the integrated health system serving Alberta. We welcome legislation that aligns with the province's current system and supports varied providers working collaboratively to ensure Albertans have access to the whole continuum of services, effectively balancing the rights of patients and providers. While Bill 207 will not change the current service delivery model, it does provide a balanced framework for providers to exercise conscience without abandoning their patients. We support the important ethical principles of Bill 207, in alignment with our commitment to compassionate, quality care that respects the values, ethical traditions and beliefs of our diverse team members and the patients, residents and families we are privileged to serve.