

Anna C. Beck

Timothy Geithner
Secretary
U.S. Department of Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20220

Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Room 639G
Washington, DC 20201

Hilda Solis
Secretary
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20210

Stuart J. Ishimaru
Acting Chairman
U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
131 M Street, NE
Washington, DC 20507

cc: Robert Kocher, MD, Special Assistant to the President, National Economic Council, The White House
Ezekiel Emanuel, MD, Special Advisor for Health Policy, Office of the Director, Office of Management and Budget

To Whom It May Concern:


I fully support the goal of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) to prevent improper use of genetic information in hiring practices and in the provision and pricing of health insurance. Unfortunately, the Oct. 7, 2009, GINA interim final rule includes regulations that will impede many individual's opportunities to receive a full and complete health risk assessment.

The GINA regulations of October 7, 2009, will exclude family medical history from health risk assessment programs. Additionally, at risk employees may not be able to receive information about preventative or managed care organizations because of the GINA regulations.

Knowledge of my family's medical history has played an integral role in my own personal battle with Type I diabetes. If the GINA regulations are accepted, I worry that many people will not have the resources or opportunities to learn about their diagnosis and seek preventative or maintenance care for their conditions.

I implore you, please, encourage the departments of Health and Human Services, Labor and the Treasury to delay implementation and enforcement of the interim final rule and evaluate, through an interagency panel, the rule's potential impact on workplace health promotion programs.

Sincerely,



Anna Beck