

**From:** [lynne pateman](#)  
**To:** [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)  
**Subject:** Thank you for supporting birth control access for all women  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 7:30:11 PM

---

Dear Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health & Human Services,

I commend the Department of Health & Human Services' landmark decision requiring health insurers to cover the full cost of contraception, with no co-pay, beginning in August 2012.

This policy places a much-needed importance on women's health that is too-often not a priority in health care policy. Birth control is a critical part of preventive care, and making contraception available to all women, regardless of their insurance or ability to pay for it, will significantly reduce long-term health care costs associated with unplanned pregnancies.

Thank you for prioritizing women's basic health care needs.

We need to look forward to a future in America that includes the birth of wanted children, and apart from the ethical importance of this decision, will also help reduce the overburdened welfare system that cannot adequately deal with unwanted births.

Sincerely,

lynne pateman

hollywood  
los angeles, ca 90068