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Interim Final Rules for Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Issuers Relating to Coverage of Preventive Services Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Comment On: EBSA-2010-0018-0002

Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Issuers Relating to Coverage of Preventive Services under Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: Amendment

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General Comment

I strongly oppose the proposed rule to allow employers to choose to opt out of offering their employees health care plans that include contraceptive coverage due to religious reasons.

Such opt out provisions put the interests of organizations and their ideologies ahead of the rights of individuals. Rights, including religious rights, belong to individuals, not organizations.

I encourage you to modify this proposed rule to allow individuals, not their employers, to choose whether to opt out of contraceptive coverage. There is no reason why Catholic priests and bishops who oppose contraceptive coverage shouldn't be able to opt out of receiving such coverage. But there is also no reason why their sexual proclivities and morays should be forced on the rest of us.