

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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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

To Secretary Sebelius ,

I would like to say I was happy to hear that your department had issued new guidelines that require health insurance providers and organizations providing health care plans to cover preventive health services, such as contraception, without charging a co-payment. I think that this is an important step forward for human rights, health care and the health of women.

I understand these new guidelines have landed in the cross-hairs of the religious right who no doubt want an opt out clause based on their adherence to bronze age scripture.

I think that the Department of Health and Human Services in issuing these new guidelines can see the importance of science in the decision making process that leads to these kinds of initiatives and I hope that the Department of Health and Human Services continues to provide leadership that we can be confident is based on science and evidence and that it will not be influenced by bronze age myths.

Thank you for reading my comment

Steven Wood