

# 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

Secretary Sibelius,

I am commenting on the amendment that was added to CMS-992-IFC2 that enables some religious organizations to withhold contraception as preventive care to their employees.

While any of those employees are free to follow religious or other views to not use contraception, it is improper that the employing institutions impose the employers view on the employee and not allow use of contraception when contraception is considered to be normal preventative care. This amendment allows the employer to have reach into the personal lives of employees that is not acceptable. It hands over to the employer an authority in the employee's personal life that diminishes the employee's religious and personal freedom.

Allowing full coverage and full access to contraception cervices for the employee to made personal choices with is the right and just thing to do. Allowing employees full status as adults rather than child status under the decision making power of the employer is the right thing to do. Religious liberty lies with the individual and religious regulation should not be imposed upon them involuntarily through their health care program.

Please resist the efforts to control the lives of us little people, to impose religious views on us little people by larger employer institutions.