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LEGAL PROCESSING DIVISION  
PUBLICATION & REGULATIONS  
BRANCH  
**PUBLIC SUBMISSION**

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**Docket:** IRS-2008-0103

Request for Information Regarding Sections 101 Through 104 of the Genetic Information  
Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

**Comment On:** IRS-2008-0103-0017

Interim Final Rules Prohibiting Discrimination Based on Genetic Information in Health Insurance  
Coverage and Group Health Plans

**Document:** IRS-2008-0103-0050

Comment on FR Doc # E9-22504

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## Submitter Information

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## General Comment

Interim Final Rules Prohibiting Discrimination Based on Genetic Information in Health Insurance  
Coverage and Group Health Plans - Comments

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## Attachments

**IRS-2008-0103-0050.1:** Comment on FR Doc # E9-22504

# DAVID HYMEL

Timothy Geithner  
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Stuart J. Ishimaru  
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131 M Street, NE  
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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:

The Oct. 7, 2009, Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) interim final rule is supposed to protect the privacy of patients and employees. While I support the overall goal of the GINA, to exclude personal medical history from insurance pricing and job applications, I fear that the GINA regulations are actually putting us at risk more than they are protecting us.

GINA regulations want to exclude family medical history from health risk assessments. Family medical history is a significant factor in determining a patient's potential health risks. If this information is excluded from Health Risk Assessments, individuals who could benefit from wellness and disease management services fall through the cracks, the prevalence of chronic conditions rises and employers experience increased health care costs and productivity losses.

Please, urge the departments of Health and Human Services, Labor and the Treasury must delay implementation and enforcement of the interim final rule and the rule's potential impact on workplace health promotion programs. If the GINA interim rules are implemented, it will hinder the progress of the medical community to educate people about certain illnesses. It will also limit the public's access to medical information. Please do not let that happen.

Sincerely,



David Hymel