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Requirement for Group Health Plans and Health Insurance Issuers to Provide Coverage of Preventive Services under the PatientProtection and Affordable Care Act

Comment On: IRS-2010-0017-0038
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 see 3 main problems with the proposal to include birth control pills as mandatory, no cost coverage in an insurance plan.

1. Pregnancy is not a disease. We should not be treating the encouragement or discouragement of it as though it were. The inclusion of birth control pills and emergency contraceptives (abortion in a pill) is morally wrong and a misuse of preventative care.

2. I am a woman who does not use birth control. That is my choice. I should not be forced to pay for the birth control of others. This bill will require that of me in federal taxes and the cost of my own health care plan.

As coverage is made mandatory in a health insurance plan, the cost is driven up. This is a travesty of the concept of insurance. The purpose of insurance is to cover the big items in life that we cannot budget for.

Including birth control (and other optional items) in mandatory insurance coverage only transfers the $10 - $20 cost of a prescription into an increase of $100s and $1000s of dollars in my premium.

3. The religious exclusion included in this bill is a joke. A very sick joke. With this bill the

department of HHS has determined that religious beliefs have no place outside of a church building. That is wrong. Our religious beliefs are to affect our whole lives and there are great Christian, Jewish and Muslim (and other) service groups that prove it on a daily basis. The work done at homeless shelters, youth at-risk programs, hospitals, clinics, soup kitchens, food pantries and a host of other organizations only exist because of the beliefs of the employees and volunteers of those groups. In many, if not most cases, the people served do not follow the religious tenets of the organization serving them.

When a religious group loses their protections and rights as a Christian/Jewish/Muslim organization because they serve the needy among us, that is an attack against our Constitutional protections.