SEP 1 2011

REG-120391-10

LEGAL PROCESSING DIVISION
PUBLICATION & REGULATIONS
BRANCH

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: September 01, 2011
Received: August 10, 2011
Status: Posted
Posted: September 01, 2011
Tracking No. 80edd541
Comments Due: September 30, 2011
Submission Type: Web

Docket: IRS-2010-0017
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

Document: IRS-2010-0017-0122
Comment on FR Doc # 2011-19684

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General Comment

I understand that NARAL is urging its members to write the Department of Health and Human Services concerning the possible exemption of religious employers from providing contraceptive coverage for women employees. I would ask that the exemption be broadened to allow religious employers to practice their religion as written in the Bill of Rights, which would for many of the organizations, be a refusal to use contraceptives. To force them to pay for others to use contraceptives would be a violation of their right to freely exercise their religion. There are plenty of programs already in place that provide contraceptives for women who cannot afford it. This request for a removal of the exemption seems unnecessary and even coercive. Please act decisively to ensure that such religious liberties are not violated.