REG-120391-10

LEGAL PROCESSING DIVISION
PUBLICATION & REGULATIONS
BRANCH

SEP 0 2 2011

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: September 02, 2011
Received: August 16, 2011
Status: Posted
Posted: September 02, 2011
Tracking No. 80ee2503
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-2010-0017-0163
Comment on FR Doc # 2011-19684

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General Comment

I strongly support the new policy requiring health-insurance plans to cover birth control without a copay, CMS-9992-IFC2. Thank you for this important improvement to women's health care.

I also want you to know that I am concerned that certain religious employers may be allowed to opt out of the requirements. All women should have access to contraceptive coverage, regardless of where they work.

This policy finally should make near-universal access to birth control a reality for all women who use it.

Improving women's access to birth control is positive in so many ways. A woman who can plan when to have a family is able to participate in society more fully. Allowing women to space their pregnancies contributes to healthy childbearing. And ultimately, fewer unintended pregnancies can reduce the need for abortion.

Thank you for following science-based recommendations and making women's health a priority.