

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

<b>As of:</b> September 23, 2011
<b>Received:</b> September 21, 2011
<b>Status:</b> Pending_Post
<b>Tracking No.</b> 80f26360
<b>Comments Due:</b> September 30, 2011
<b>Submission Type:</b> Web

**Docket:** EBSA-2010-0018

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

**Document:** EBSA-2010-0018-DRAFT-0124

Comment on FR Doc # 2011-19684

---

## Submitter Information

**Name:** Alex Gonzalez

**Address:**

Miami, Florida, 33165

**Email:** a.gonzalez57@umiami.edu

**Organization:** Secular Coalition for America

---

## General Comment

To Whom It May Concern:

I oppose any exemption that allows an exclusion of preventative health services for some women based on their employers' religions. Individuals opposed to contraceptive use remain as free as they always have been to NOT USE CONTRACEPTIVES. The moment they try to bring that prohibition to anyone else, including by refusing to fund contraceptives via their insurance plans, they are denying the individual freedom of others. Employers should not be able to hold the medical care of their employees hostage to their religious beliefs--this is a decision ONLY for the employees to make.

During a time when jobs are scarce and organizations and companies may discriminate based on religious beliefs, and when individuals are not able to use marketplace pressures to force employers to accede to the majority's wishes of contraceptive coverage, it is the responsibility of government to protect the interests of those who are unable to protect themselves.

Sincerely,

Alex Gonzalez