

To: [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)
Subject: Thank you for supporting birth control access for all women
Date: Tuesday, August 02, 2011 6:20:21 PM

Dear Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health & Human Services,

Thank you for the decision to require health insurers to cover the full cost of contraception with no co-pay, beginning August 2012.

When I lived overseas, I could receive a year of birth control for free- making it simple to continue a regular regimen and maintain my health. In America, my health insurance would charge monthly copays of over \$30, and I could only receive one month at a time. If I happened to be traveling or unable to get to the store during the seven day window at the end of the month, I would not be able to continue using birth control! And the costs were \$360 a year - a significant amount!

This policy places a much-needed importance on women's health that is too-often not a priority in health care policy. Birth control is a critical part of preventive care, and has many health benefits removed from pregnancy-prevention - such as cancer prevention, monthly pain minimization that keeps women at work, and so on.

Thank you for prioritizing women's basic health care needs.

Sincerely,

R. Kleinfeld