From: Kathleen Dodge
To: E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA
Subject: Fwd: Support Access to Preventive Care and Contraception!
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2011 7:00:05 PM

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I join with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in asking you to accept the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine as pertain to coverage of preventive care under the new health care law, and to reject any exemptions for "religious employers." These preventive services are a critical element of the new law and would provide countless women better access to necessary health care.

While AAUW believes that "religious refusal" exemptions unjustly deny women access to contraceptive services, others, driven by an ideological distaste for all contraceptive services, are pushing the government to make exemptions even larger. Indeed, some groups are pushing for the exemption to apply to religiously-run health providers, so hospitals with religious affiliations would be exempt from the coverage requirement, even though they employ people of all faiths and ideologies. If granted, this larger exemption would deny access to thousands of women just because of where they work.

I urge you to ensure women have access to quality preventive care by accepting IOM's recommendations and rejecting the proposed religious refusal exemption provisions.

Remember: You can always help strengthen AAUW's efforts to support access to contraception and preventive health care by **making a tax-deductible donation to AAUW's Public Policy Fund!**

Double your impact! Tweet, Facebook, and forward this action alert to friends and family.

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General AAUW questions? Please contact connect@aauw.org or call 800/326-2289 between 10 am and 5 pm Eastern, Monday through Friday.

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