

From: [Diana Murray](#)
To: [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)
Subject: Access to Preventive Care and Contraception
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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.

There is nothing "religious" about allowing women to have access to preventative care and contraception. If enacted, religious women will still be able to choose to have 20 or more children in their lifetime if they are able and desire. However, the instances of women who freely choose this are very few. Due to monetary and cultural restrictions, women have an interest to ensure the viability of the children they have and, obviously, many women continue to be preyed upon by men who claim their religious beliefs in spite of women's and children's interests.

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.