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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

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General Comment

Upon reading the text provided here concerning this law, I find the exemption clause to be very narrow indeed. In fact, the wording in the document says "...the Departments seek to provide for a religious accommodation that respects the unique relationship between a house of worship and its employees in ministerial positions...the Departments are amending the interim final rules to provide HRSA additional discretion to exempt certain religious employers..." First of all, this sounds like only ministerial positions are truly employee positions, and secondly, that no exemption is guaranteed, only that HRSA has the discretion to make the decision. I find the wording here to be vague at best and narrow and discriminatory at worst. Please amend the wording to provide better clarification and to better reflect the desires of the American people. Many of us work in places that do not qualify as a "house of worship" and yet we do not want any part of the requirements set forth in this law. Thank you.