

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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**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

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## General Comment

The definition of "certain religious employers" that may be able to receive exemptions from providing contraceptive services, which include abortifacient drugs, is very narrow. What about religious organizations that care for the homeless or abused women or any other number of hurting people? These organizations don't fit under the definition because they do not "primarily serve persons who share its religious tenets;"...What about private employers whose sincerely held beliefs would be violated by providing such services? The freedom of religion covers the right to act according to one's beliefs, not merely the right to worship.

I believe this exemption should be broadened to not only include houses of worship, but also religious organizations, religious colleges, and employer-funded private health insurance plans if the employer has a conscientious objection to using corporate funds to pay for birth control or abortion-inducing drugs.

We need to protect our freedoms, including the freedom of religion.

Respectfully,

Lori Miller