

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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**Docket:** EBSA-2008-0020

Prohibiting Discrimination Based on Genetic Information in Health Insurance Coverage and Group Health Plans

**Comment On:** EBSA-2008-0020-0023

Interim Final Rules Prohibiting Discrimination Based on Genetic Information in Health Insurance Coverage and Group Health Plans

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## General Comment

HHS has just taken their interpretation of the Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act (GINA) to a new level of ridiculous.

If a health plan or employer can't incent an employee to take an HRA that contains questions on family history (they all have those questions, it's a necessary component of any good HRA) then why don't we just throw in the towel now and call it a day?

Don't these people read the same headlines every night about health care reform and slowing down the rise in health care costs? Wellness is a hard enough sell as it is... if you take away a plan's or employer's ability to use an incentive to EDUCATE people about their health status in order to reduce risks and keep them from migrating to a higher risk category unknowingly, we will never get out of this boat and will only continue to spiral down the toilet. What about an organization's freedom to decide to do what's best for the long term health of its employees??

If this passes you might as well go ahead and include a free Supersize Fries and Big Mac coupon with each federal and state tax return check you mail out, so people are clear on the message you are sending.