From: <u>Heather McGuirk</u>
To: <u>E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA</u>

Subject: Thank you for supporting birth control access for all women

**Date:** Tuesday, August 02, 2011 4:44:07 PM

Dear Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health & Human Services,

I commend the Department of Health & Human Services' landmark decision requiring health insurers to cover the full cost of contraception, with no co-pay, beginning in August 2012.

This policy places a much-needed importance on women's health that is too-often not a priority in health care policy. Birth control is a critical part of preventive care, and making contraception available to all women, regardless of their insurance or ability to pay for it, will significantly reduce long-term health care costs associated with unplanned pregnancies. And I truly thank you, from the bottom of my heart for taking care of those who need this access to better their lives and situations.

Thank you for prioritizing women's basic health care needs. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather McGuirk

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