

From: [Christine Kovacs](#)
To: [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)
Subject: Thank you for supporting birth control access for all women
Date: Tuesday, August 02, 2011 5:17:59 PM

Dear Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health & Human Services,

I trust the Dept of Health and Human Services - I trust you are trying your best to fulfill that vote of trust we give you by making the best policies for all Americans. In this decision to require insurers to cover contraception I am grateful to find you correcting a policy that discriminated against women who need these services. As a woman yourself, I know you have the sensitivity and personal experience to know that women's health needs are not recognized in many areas. Congress' challenge to funding for Planned Parenthood is a recent example. Contraception is not just a personal option, but for many needed to avoid other health risks. This should be a no-brainer, but it has not been. Hopefully, this will be a step in understanding many of the distinct health needs of women, so they may be provided for also.

Below is the statement of the Women's Media Center with I agree with, but here I wanted to just say in my own words how significant I believe this new policy is and I thank you for all you have done to make this happen. Sincerely, Christine Kovacs

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.

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

Sincerely,

Christine Kovacs

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