

From: [Carly Lonergan](#)
To: [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)
Subject: Thank you for supporting birth control access for all women
Date: Wednesday, August 03, 2011 5:14:19 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.

It is sometimes discouraging hearing news about recent efforts to reduce the amount and quality of basic care available to women, especially when done so under hidden religious or conservative values or under the guise of anti-choice motives. This decision to make birth control covered by insurance reaffirms my faith that women are not considered second class citizens in this country.

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

Sincerely,

Carly Lonergan

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