To: <u>E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA</u>

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

**Date:** Thursday, August 04, 2011 11:28:29 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.

Thank you for prioritizing women's basic health care needs. I sincerely hope that this law includes all forms of birth control, not just the pill. I am a big fan of the nuva ring and firmly believe that women should also have the choice of what birth control works best for them. Thank you again. This is certainly a victory for women!

Sincerely,

A. Andersen