

From: [Laurel Watson](#)
To: [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)
Subject: Coverage of preventive care for Women
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2011 6:39:23 PM

I join with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in asking you to accept the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine as pertain to coverage of preventive care under the new health care law, and to reject any exemptions for "religious employers." These preventive services are a critical element of the new law and would provide countless women better access to necessary health care.

While AAUW believes that "religious refusal" exemptions unjustly deny women access to contraceptive services, others, driven by an ideological distaste for all contraceptive services, are pushing the government to make exemptions even larger. Indeed, some groups are pushing for the exemption to apply to religiously-run health providers, so hospitals with religious affiliations would be exempt from the coverage requirement, even though they employ people of all faiths and ideologies. If granted, this larger exemption would deny access to thousands of women just because of where they work.

I urge you to ensure women have access to quality preventive care by accepting IOM's recommendations and rejecting the proposed religious refusal exemption provisions

"What appears on the surface of society seem to be multitudinous problems, but by use of critical point analysis they have a common root. For example we can make up a list of 'unsolvable' social problems, all of which are deemed to stem from different 'causes' in the world, such as:

- poverty
- crowded highways
- massive immigration
- rising gasoline prices and power consumption
- environmental destruction
- overwhelmed government agencies
- progressive elimination of rain forests
- excessive CO2 production
- high taxation
- crowded inner cities where crime and poverty prevail
- smog and air pollution
- global warming
- overcrowded landfills
- overcrowded courts, jails, and prisons
- overcrowded emergency rooms
- overwhelming medical costs
- overwhelming Social Security costs
- a postal service overwhelmed by deficits
- lack of dump sites
- dwindling wildlife and natural resources
- threatened extinction of species
- pollution of the ocean
- excessive case loads for all areas of welfare and human services
- overwhelmed child protective services

rising costs of welfare and social services
long waits for service from all agencies
long lines at supermarkets
traffic jams
escalating police costs
overcrowded schools
teacher shortages
nursing shortages
rising noise pollution levels
invasion of privacy on every level
shortages of raw materials
shortages of dump space for toxic materials
overtaxed energy sources
pollution of streams, lakes, and rivers
starving nations and continents

Merely listing all the supposed diverse problems brings the awareness that they all stem from the same single basis--the very simple and obvious to see but unnoticed face of overpopulation.

Thus we see the paradox that sending financial aid to a country results in a spurt of birth rate and a worsening of the basic poverty level (e.g. Haiti)."

--Dr David Hawkins