To whom it may concern,

I am writing with regard to Section 2713 of the Affordable Care Act, which requires health plans offering group or individual health insurance to provide coverage for clinical preventive service.

While the increased focus and support for preventive services is commendable and prudent, I am quite concerned about the rule (as currently drafted) that would require insurance plans to report the medical care provided to adolescents covered by the plan. This component would create a significant barrier for adolescents to seek STD treatment, family planning services, and other preventive care. A significant portion of adolescents who currently seek services do so not only because they recognize that they need these services, but also because the services are confidential. I am very concerned that a change in this requirement would result in higher STDs and unintended pregnancies in adolescents.

I recommend that this rule be amended to protect the confidentiality of adolescents seeking these important health services.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Elizabeth Torrant Chief Operations Officer **Health Imperatives, Inc.** (*formerly Health Care of Southeastern Mass., Inc.*) 942 West Chestnut Street Brockton, MA 02301 Phone: 508-583-3005 ext 241 Fax: 508-583-9809 visit us on the web at <u>www.healthimperatives.org</u>