

[insert name and address here]

July 27, 2005

[insert your employer's name, job title & address]

[perhaps insert union contact person]

RE: Employee Health Plan

To _____:

I am concerned that our health benefits at _____ do not provide any birth control coverage. Contraception is a basic health need for women. Access to contraception is critical in achieving healthy families, both in medical and economic terms. Responsible, preventive contraception deserves to be at the core of every health plan. Studies show that it saves money in the long run for employers to cover contraception.

In 2002 the AFL-CIO and its sister unions passed resolutions reaffirming their commitment to contraception equity and comprehensive health care for women and families.

Furthermore, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission issued a Policy Decision in 2000 stating that an employer's failure to cover contraception is discrimination in violation of federal law. Federal courts have also reached a similar conclusion. See *Erickson v. Bartell Drug Co.*, 141 F.Supp.2d 1266 (W.D.WA 2001).

As a matter of fairness and good health policy, I ask that this health plan cover all methods of prescription contraception.

I look forward to receiving your written response shortly.

Yours Truly,