

**REVENUE:** No revenue impact

**FISCAL:** No fiscal impact

---

<b>Action:</b>	Be Adopted
<b>Vote:</b>	5 - 0 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Bates, Kruse, Morse, Shields, Monnes Anderson
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Brian Nieuburt, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	3/14

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Urges the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to include all prescription contraceptive drugs and devices to prevent pregnancy that are approved for use by the United States Food and Drug Administration on the list of women’s preventive health care services that are exempt from cost-sharing in health insurance plans.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Effectiveness and benefits of birth control
- Cost barriers for women in obtaining birth control

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** The federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, passed in 2010, contained a requirement that health insurance plans cover women’s preventative health services without any cost-sharing. HHS will establish guidelines defining which services and medications comprise preventative health services. SR 1 would urge the Secretary of HHS to include all prescription contraceptive drugs and devices in this definition.

Over 90 percent of Oregon women will use prescription birth control during their lifetime. Birth control allows women to plan and prepare for pregnancy. Women whose pregnancies are planned obtain prenatal care earlier than women with unplanned pregnancies, and they are less likely to experience fetal and maternal illness or have a low-birth-weight baby. Birth control can also help prevent unwanted pregnancies; publically funded birth control services and supplies prevent nearly two million unintended pregnancies each year nationally. Birth control can also help save federal, state and private dollars. According to a 2010 study by the Guttmacher Institute, for every dollar invested in birth control, \$3.74 is saved in Medicaid expenditures for pregnancy-related care. An analysis by the National Business Group on Health also estimates that it costs employers 15 to 17 percent more when they fail to include contraceptive coverage in employee health plans.