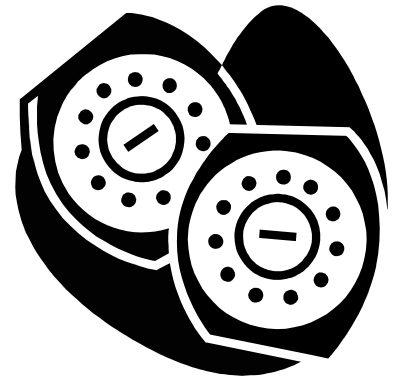


Putting Prevention First: Contraceptive Equity



Why do we need Contraceptive Equity?

- Nearly 50% of all pregnancies in the United States each year are unintended, one of the highest unintended pregnancy rates in of all industrialized nations.
- A typical woman will spend 85% of her reproductive years avoiding pregnancy, which breaks down to approximately 5 years pregnant or trying to become pregnant and 30 years avoiding pregnancy for a woman who wants only 2 children.
- Without contraception a woman could experience between 12 and 15 pregnancies in her lifetime.
- Twenty-five states currently require insurance companies that cover prescription drugs to also cover prescription contraceptives, Ohio is not one of these states.
- Women aged 15-44 spend 68% more in out-of-pocket medical costs than their male counterparts, and still only make \$0.75 for every dollar made by their male peers.
- Studies show that the coverage of the full range of FDA approved prescription contraceptives costs only \$1.43 per employee per month, an increase of less than 1%. When you take into account the cost savings of preventing pregnancy and the costs associated with pregnancy and childbirth, employers would be saving money by covering prescription contraceptives.

Did you know?

The general public overwhelmingly supports requiring coverage of contraceptives, nationwide polls show that three-quarters of the people support contraceptive equity laws, even if their monthly premiums might increase!

What the Ohio Prevention First Act will do:

- Forbid a health insurance company from limiting or excluding coverage for FDA approved prescription contraception if the policy covers other prescription drugs or devices.
- Require insurance policies to cover the office visits and outpatient services required to obtain a prescription or have a device fitted or inserted at the same rate they cover other outpatient services.
- Insurance companies are prevented from charging a higher copayment amount for contraception than they charge for other prescription drugs.
- The health insurance policies of public employees must cover contraception at the same rate as that of other prescription drugs.



NARAL
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