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December 14, 2009

Timothy Geithner
Secretary
U.S. Department of Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20220

Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Room 639G
Washington, DC 20201

Hilda Solis
Secretary
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20210

Stuart J. Ishimaru
Acting Chairman
U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
131 M Street, NE
Washington, DC 20507

cc: Robert Kocher, MD, Special Assistant to the President, National Economic Council, The White House
Ezekiel Emanuel, MD, Special Advisor for Health Policy, Office of the Director, Office of Management and Budget

Re: Interim Final Regulations on Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA)

To Whom It May Concern:

My husband with diabetes has significantly reduced his symptoms because of the wellness programs offered through his employer. As a result, we are noticing a considerable difference on our monthly medical bills and he is healthier than he has ever been before

Recently I became aware of the impending final regulations on GINA that will prohibit employers from determining which of their employees could benefit from wellness programs. If this happens, not only will we see an increase in our healthcare costs, but a decrease in the health and well-being of my husband. Because my husband filled out a survey at work in which he voluntarily noted his condition, we discovered he was eligible for a life-changing program.

I urge you to put a stop to these regulations before they're implemented. Doing so will help preserve the effectiveness and value of much-needed health promotion and wellness programs.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Green
Northridge, CA