

employees' birth control under their company health insurance plan, **Congresswoman Alma Adams** joined a group of federal lawmakers in cosponsoring new legislation to repeal the rules before they can take effect.

The legislation, known as the **Protect Access to Birth Control Act** and led by **U.S. Reps. Diana DeGette (D-CO), Judy Chu (D-CA), Barbara Lee (D-CA), and Lois Frankel (D-FL)**, would repeal rules the Trump administration put in place in October 2017 to allow employers to opt not to provide their employees with access to free birth control as part of their employer-sponsored health care plan.

The Supreme Court's decision yesterday to uphold the administration's rules clears the way for employers to put the health and well-being of their employees at risk by limiting their access to free birth control.

"The Trump Administration rules limiting access to contraception disproportionately impacts low-wage workers, LGBTQ people, and people of color," **said Congresswoman Adams.** "Birth control is health care. It should be accessible to all, regardless of where they work or go to school. I am proud to cosponsor this bill to fight against the administration's decision to put the health of millions of Americans at risk."

"A decision about whether to use birth control is one that should be between a patient and their doctor – and no one else," said **Reps. DeGette, Chu, Lee, and Frankel**. "Giving an employer the ability to interject themselves in that decisions – by limiting a patient's access to free birth control – is unconscionable. We aren't going to sit back and allow this court, or this administration, to put the health and well-being of millions of Americans at risk. We are going to continue to fight against these dangerous rules in any way we can." Since taking effect in August 2011, the Affordable Care Act has mandated that health insurance plans cover the full cost of patients' birth control, making it available for free to the more than 60 million Americans who currently have coverage under an ACAapproved plan.

In 2017, however, under the direction of President Trump, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of Labor and the Department of Health and Human Services each issued new rules that would allow employers to opt not to provide their employees with access to birth control as part of their company's health care plan.

The legislation – filed today – would repeal these rules and prevent them from taking effect, despite the Supreme Court's ruling today that will allow the administration to move forward with its plans to implement them.

A copy of the legislation is available **here**.

Congresswoman Alma Adams represents North Carolina's 12th Congressional District (Charlotte) and serves as Vice Chair of the House Committee on Agriculture. Additionally, she serves on the House Financial Services Committee and the House Education & Labor Committee, where she serves as Chair of the Workforce Protections Subcommittee. In 2015, she co-founded the first bipartisan Congressional HBCU Caucus, which she continues to chair.

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Sam Spencer Deputy Chief of Staff | Communications Director Congresswoman Alma S. Adams, NC-12 2436 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone: 202-225-1510 Fax: 202-225-1512

Connect with us



Office of Congresswoman Alma Adams | 801 E. Morehead St, Suite 150, Charlotte, NC 28202 Phone: 704-344-9950

Unsubscribe sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org

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