## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

LEGATUS; WEINGARTZ SUPPLY	
COMPANY; and DANIEL WEINGARTZ,	)
President of Weingartz Supply Company,	)
Plaintiffs,	) )
V.	
KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, Secretary of the	<i>)</i> )
United States Department of Health and	Case No.: 2:12-cv-12061-RHC-MJH
Human Services; UNITED STATES	
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND	BRIEF STATEMENT REGARDING
HUMAN SERVICES; SETH D. HARRIS,	) STATUS OF RULEMAKING PROCESS
Acting Secretary of the United States	)
Department of Labor; UNITED STATES	) Judge Robert H. Cleland
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR; JACOB LEW,	)
Secretary of the United States Department of	Magistrate Judge Michael Hluchaniuk
the Treasury; and UNITED STATES	)
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY,	)
,	
Defendants.	
	)

In accordance with this Court's October 31, 2012 order (*see* ECF No. 39), the government respectfully submits this seventh brief statement describing the current status of the rulemaking process.

On March 21, 2012, the Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS"), the Department of Labor, and the Department of the Treasury published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("ANPRM") soliciting comments on potential proposed amendments to the preventive services coverage regulations to establish alternative ways to fulfill the requirements of section 2713 of the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300gg-13(a)(4), and companion provisions under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and the Internal

Revenue Code, when non-grandfathered health coverage is sponsored or arranged by certain religious organizations that object to coverage of contraceptive services for religious reasons and that are not exempt from the contraceptive-coverage requirement under the final regulations published on February 15, 2012. 77 Fed. Reg. 16,501 (Mar. 21, 2012). The comment period on the ANPRM closed on June 19, 2012. HHS, Labor, and Treasury received nearly 200,000 public comments on the ANPRM.

After considering the comments received on the ANPRM, HHS, Labor, and Treasury issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NPRM") on February 1, 2013. *See* 78 Fed. Reg. 8456, 8459 (Feb. 6, 2013). The comment period on the NPRM closed on April 8, 2013, and HHS, Labor, and Treasury are currently reviewing the comments. As explained in the government's prior brief statements, HHS, Labor, and Treasury intend to finalize amendments to the preventive services coverage regulations before August 1, 2013.

Dated: May 6, 2013 Respectfully submitted,

STUART F. DELERY Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

BARBARA L. McQUADE United States Attorney Eastern District of Michigan

SHEILA M. LIEBER Deputy Branch Director

s/ Michelle R. Bennett
MICHELLE R. BENNETT (CO Bar No. 37050)
Trial Attorney
United States Department of Justice
Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch
20 Massachusetts Avenue N.W. Room 7310
Washington, D.C. 20530
Tel: (202) 305-8902

Fax: (202) 305-8902 Fax: (202) 616-8470

Email: michelle.bennett@usdoj.gov

Attorneys for Defendants

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on May 6, 2013, I electronically filed the foregoing paper with the Clerk of the Court using the ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the following: Erin E. Mersino, and I certify that I have mailed by United States Postal Service the paper to the following non-ECF participants: NONE.

s/ Michelle R. Bennett
MICHELLE R. BENNETT (CO Bar No. 37050) Trial Attorney United States Department of Justice Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch 20 Massachusetts Avenue N.W. Room 7310 Washington, D.C. 20530

Tel: (202) 305-8902 Fax: (202) 616-8470

Email: michelle.bennett@usdoj.gov