



PRESS RELEASE

Attorney General Frosh Joins Lawsuit Challenging Trump Administration Over Contraceptive Regulations

BALTIMORE, MD (November 2, 2017) – Maryland Attorney Brian E. Frosh joined in a lawsuit in federal court against the Trump Administration’s new rules that will deny access to contraceptives for millions of women and their families by giving employers control over whether to cover these vital reproductive health services. The rules jeopardize the Affordable Care Act requirement that employers provide coverage of birth control for employees and their covered dependents with no out-of-pocket costs. To date, 62 million women across the country have benefited from these services.

“This maneuver by the Trump Administration takes away women’s rights. It puts family planning in the hands of employers, not workers.” said Attorney General Frosh. “These intensely personal decisions should be made by the women who are affected and their healthcare providers.”

In 1998, the Maryland General Assembly mandated contraceptive coverage for certain State-regulated insurance plans. In 2016, it built upon this earlier progress in enacting the Maryland Contraceptive Equity Act. This new law, which goes into effect January 2018, extends the contraceptive coverage requirements under the ACA by expanding the number of contraception options available without co-payment, requiring coverage of over-the-counter contraceptive medications, providing for coverage of up to 6-months dispensing of birth control, and expanding vasectomy coverage without cost-sharing and deductible requirements.

Maryland’s contraceptive coverage law applies only to State-regulated health plans. Thus, while it will protect from President Trump’s latest rollback of coverage protections for those Maryland women and their families in regulated plans, it will not help those in employer self-insured health plans, through which 50 percent of covered Marylanders are insured.

Attorney General Frosh joined attorneys general from California, Delaware, New York and Virginia in filing the amended complaint. The lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California.

A copy of the amended complaint, [can be found here](#). The original complaint was filed in early October.