



URGE THE FDA TO STOP PLAYING POLITICS WITH WOMEN'S LIVES: DEMAND EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION OVER-THE-COUNTER!!!

On August 26th, 2005, for the third time, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) delayed its decision on making the emergency contraceptive Plan B available over-the-counter (OTC). This delay flies in the face of the deal between Senators Hillary Clinton (D-NY), Patty Murray (D-WA) and Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt. The Senators had blocked Lester Crawford's confirmation as FDA Commissioner until a deadline was set for approval of over-the-counter emergency contraception. Many advocates and health care experts familiar with this issue and the FDA process feel that politics is trumping science, and that this decision will be made purely on political grounds—in accordance with anti-reproductive rights, right-wing agenda. **I strongly urge the FDA to change the distribution status of emergency contraceptive from prescription to over-the counter, without restrictions.**

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