

TO: Business Editor  
2005

Date: November 30,

FROM: Linda O'Hanlon / 818-386-1916

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## MEDIA ADVISORY For December 14, 2005

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### 2006 HEALTH INSURANCE FORUM

## Leading Benefits and Tax Experts Discuss Solutions To Escalating Health Insurance Costs

**What:** Health care costs are expected to continue to grow faster than inflation and workers' pay, making it more difficult for workers and businesses to afford health coverage.

In 2005, premiums increased an average of 9.2%, compared to the 2.7% increase in workers earnings. Annual premiums for family coverage reached \$10,880 in 2005, eclipsing the gross earnings for a full time minimum wage worker. The result is more employers passing on additional costs to their workers and causing some workers to opt out, saying they can't afford health coverage.

A panel of benefits and tax experts will be discussing strategies that companies can implement to save 20% or more in health insurance costs without cutting benefits.

**Who:** Panel includes Thomas Quigley, Jr., President/CEO of Total Benefits Planning Agency, Inc. Jennifer Nevin, VP, Service & Enrollment of Total Benefits Planning Agency, Inc., and Edward A. Lyon, President/CEO of TaxTuneup.

**When:** Wednesday, December 14, 2005  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Where:** Raffel's Catering Banquet Hall  
10160 Reading Road  
Cincinnati, OH

**Contact:** Thomas Quigley / 513-677-6262