April 24, 2010

I am writing to support the interim final rule under the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (RIN 1210-AB30).

I support the strong rule that would forbid insurance companies from charging higher copayments, deductibles, and other out-of-pocket expenses for mental health treatment than they would for other physical health care. Thank you for ensuring that mental health care and physical health care coverage are included in a single deductible.

Many untreated mental health problems eventually contribute to physical health problems, for the patient, and for family members under the stress of dealing with them. Insurance companies are stupid for not stemming the rise in future claims.

Sincerely,

Barbara Heisler