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 am familiar with what individuals and families endure who can't get help for their illnesses. The ancient myth and stigma that mental illnesses are curable character flaws has been convenient for health insurance carriers, but too many are suffering for this to go on any longer.

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.

Sincerely,

Holy Names Mission