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.

It is as if the brain is not part of our biology; it is absurd to treat it differently and to assume mental health professionals are not part of the medical community. After all, once big pharma convinced everyone they were depressed, that medicine was covered and primary care physicians became mental health experts. Let's fix this!

Sincerely,

John Carter