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Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2010 12:13 PM

To: EBSA, E-OHPSCA - EBSA

Subject: Comment in support of RIN 1210-AB30

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.

It is unconscionable that in the 21st century we are still stigmatizing people with mental illness and continuing to make it more difficult for them get the help that would allow them to lead normal lives. It is my belief that many of the homeless are people who have been driven to the streets because of mental health issues. I consider treating mental illness differently than we do physical illnesses a national disgrace.

Thank you for ensuring that mental health care and physical health care coverage are included in a single deductible.

Sincerely,

Natalie Somer