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Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2010 4:00 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. Thank you for ensuring that mental health care and physical health care coverage are included in a single deductible.

It is way past the time for the long held idea of a mind-body split. There is too much good research that clearly indicates the interdependence. There seems also to be a stigma still attached to mental illness and some punitive approach to substance abuse---and again research and field experience/knowledge counter these outdated insurance practices. In fact, most health related insurance practices are outdated and not backed by good evidence----what rules, is of course, profit. I hope that the disparity between the medical/surgical and mental health/substance abuse can be closed so that those who need it are given the support they need.

Sincerely,

Corinne M. Biggs