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From: dianebakerlcs@gmail.com [<mailto:dianebakerlcs@gmail.com>]

Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2010 1:40 PM

To: EBSA, E-OHPSCA - EBSA

Subject: Comment in support of RIN 1210-AB30

April 29, 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 worked 17 years with people suffering from mental illnesses. They desperately need treatment. Over the last 5 years I have seen cuts in mental health every year with worse and worse results for mentally ill patients and their families. Mental illness is very serious and people with these diagnoses need affordable treatment.

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,

Diane Baker  
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Portland, OR 97216