

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Request for Information Regarding the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008

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Request for Information Regarding the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008

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MN-JoAnne

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## General Comment

As an individual, or maybe the correct word is consumer, who has needed both Mental Health care and Substance Abuse help, I applaud this Equity Act. It's about time that these two illnesses/diseases are treated the same as other illnesses! Hopefully, this will help bring us closer to erasing the "stigma" that goes with both of these health issues.

Speaking from personal experience, I have experienced the stigma first-hand. Unfortunately, I have felt this from Health Professionals, as well as the general public. Another needed program is to educate the public and professionals about this.

Just wanted to put my two cent's in. Thank you, JoAnne