

-----Original Message-----

Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2010 12:56 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.

I work as a therapist trainee for County Mental Health and have seen the amazing resiliency and ability to recover in people with mental illness who receive the proper treatment (e.g., therapy, rehabilitation, and/or medication support).

Insurance companies are making plenty of profit as it is-- the bottom line is health care should be about health, not profit. We all benefit from having a society with people who are able to get their basic physical and mental health needs met.

Sincerely,

Kim Richards