## 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

**Comment On:** EBSA-2009-0010-0001 Request for Information Regarding the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008

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## **General Comment**

The initial act was a great step forward, but misses a very important factor. We need parity in not only large group plans, size 50 or more, but also small group plans. In many areas of the country small group plans are more of the norm than larger plans. The cost savings when treating co-morbid physical and mental health conditions will pay for most, if not all, of the costs to provide this coverage. Small group employers should have the same opportunity to provide these benefits as larger companies. Encouragement from Washington will go a long ways towards ensuring that people with mental health conditions are not penalized because they work for a small business.