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Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2010 10:57 AM

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 salute the two individuals who are bringing this legislation forward. They represent a larger collective constituency of the public who are deeply affected in this disparity one way or another, themselves, a family member or friend, a coworker, an acquaintance. Mental health issues and substance abuse know no social or financial boundaries. Treatment barriers only exacerbate a fundamental national crisis and disparity.

Thank you,
Ruth M. Tuff

Sincerely,

Ruth Tuff