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Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2010 3:04 PM

To: EBSA, E-OHPSCA - EBSA

Subject: Comment in support of RIN 1210-AB30

April 24, 2010

I support the interim final rule under the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (RIN 1210-AB30).

Mental health services are as important to a patient's well-being as other medical services. Denial of mental health services harms patients, weakens our country by reducing the productivity of those who go untreated, and contributes to the stigmatization of the mentally ill.

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,

Leah Hess