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Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2010 4:09 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. Washington state, thankfully, has already implemented this very important legislation. The insurers should not be able to make such important medical decisions, or limit the care necessary for insureds, based solely on some arbitrary bias against mental health issue as opposed to physical health issues.

Thank you for ensuring that mental health care and physical health care coverage are included in a single deductible.

Sincerely,

Gabriella Herkert