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From: suestadler@mindspring.com [<mailto:suestadler@mindspring.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2010 8:31 PM

To: EBSA, E-OHPSCA - EBSA

Subject: Comment in support of RIN 1210-AB30

April 27, 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.

As a mental health professional for 40 years, I can tell you that mental illnesses and substance abuse can be every bit as debilitating as a medical condition. Charging higher co-payments and premiums for mental health and substance abuse services means that many people will suffer rather than getting the professional help they need. And, it costs us all more in the long run. It's time to put client needs and fairness above insurance company profits.

Sincerely,

Sue Stadler
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Boise, ID 83714