

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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**Docket:** EBSA-2009-0010

The Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008

**Comment On:** EBSA-2009-0010-0409

Interim Final Rules Under the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008

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## Submitter Information

**Name:** Zoe Ann Cooley

**Address:**

P.O. Box 1042

Pullman, WA, 99163

**Organization:** NAMI/Palouse

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## General Comment

On behalf of NAMI/Palouse, I am writing to submit comments on the Interim Final Rules under the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 and in doing so, NAMI/Palouse endorses the separate comments submitted by the Parity Implementation Coalition and the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Members of our affiliate are keenly aware of the need for better mental health services and substance abuse services to our loved ones and we have experienced barriers to good care from insurance companies. The people of this country and our Congressional representatives voted for the Parity Act and we expect full implementation of the intent of that act.

It would be a travesty if health plans were allowed to block enforcement of the regulations and to undermine specific protections in the rules.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.