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From: shoterp@comcast.net [<mailto:shoterp@comcast.net>]

Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2010 3:21 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 am a public defender and many of my clients need a home and consistent mental health treatment more than anything else. If we cared for every individual and respected his or her needs, the amount of crime that would be reduced and the amount of public money that could be saved is astronomical. Jail is not a good answer for individuals with mental illnesses, if insurance companies supported people and programs in getting the help they need, so much pain and suffering could be avoided. When insurance companies pay for treatment then programs, group homes, day treatment, and community centers are able to thrive. Everyone should have the opportunity to participate in our culture in a healthy way.

Sincerely,

Shoshanah Epstein
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