

newsletter

Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2009 10:39 AM
Subject: Action Alert - Mental Health Parity Regulations Need Your Support Now!

**Action alert:****Mental Health Parity Regulations Need Your Support Now!**

The Mental Health Parity Act (officially, the Wellstone-Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008) holds the promise of many improvements in the delivery of mental healthcare—but only if it has the right regulations. No regulations have yet been published, although they must be issued by October 3rd.

Rep. Patrick Kennedy (D-RI), a sponsor of the Act, is circulating a letter in Congress asking various cabinet-level departments to issue parity regulations for mental health and addiction treatment services, clarifying issues like scope-of-services, medical management strategies, and the use of treatment limitations. You can read the letter by clicking [here](#). Representatives must sign on to this letter **by September 21!!**

Good parity regulations are vital to the inclusion of addiction and mental health services in any healthcare reform bill passed by Congress. **Please consider asking your Representative to sign on to the Kennedy letter by calling the Congressional switchboard at 202-224-3121 and asking for the office of your Representative.**

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