



Sent: Monday, April 30, 2007

Subject: **BCD Urgent Action Alert**

Dear BCD,

We at the Center for Clinical Social Work have heard from advocates of the House version of the Mental Health Parity bill that they need your help this Wednesday, May 2. If you support the bill, which has bipartisan backing and was introduced by Congressmen Patrick Kennedy (D-RI) and Jim Ramstad (R-MN), you may wish to take action (as below) on National Parity Day, this Wednesday. The so-called “Wellstone Bill” (named for the late Sen. Paul Wellstone) is awaiting action in several House committees and must pass through these committees and go to the House floor in the next two months if it is to stand a good chance of passage.

If you'd like to help, on Wednesday call the national Mental Health Parity hotline (**1-866-PARITY4**) and ask to be connected to your member of Congress and deliver this message, drafted by the Wellstone Action group:

“I am calling to urge you to support the Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act. This is a bipartisan bill that is co-sponsored by a majority of House members. It is common-sense legislation that ends discrimination against people suffering from mental illness and addiction. The Wellstone bill is fair, just, and long overdue. Please support this bill and urge your colleagues to finally pass it out of the House this year.”

Sincerely,

Joyce Cunningham, MSW, BCD
President, Center for Clinical Social Work