

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. RES. 605

Expressing the sense of the Senate that Senator Paul Wellstone should be remembered for his compassion and leadership on social issues and that Congress should act to end discrimination against citizens of the United States who live with a mental illness by making legislation relating to mental health parity a priority for the 110th Congress.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 30 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 29), 2006

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. REED, Mr. DODD, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that Senator Paul Wellstone should be remembered for his compassion and leadership on social issues and that Congress should act to end discrimination against citizens of the United States who live with a mental illness by making legislation relating to mental health parity a priority for the 110th Congress.

Whereas Paul Wellstone served with distinction as a Senator from the State of Minnesota;

Whereas, for more than 20 years, Paul Wellstone inspired the students of Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota;

Whereas Paul Wellstone was a loving father and husband, a loyal citizen of the United States, and a compassionate person;

Whereas Paul Wellstone dedicated his life to bringing equal access to education, economic opportunity, and comprehensive healthcare to all citizens of the United States;

Whereas Paul Wellstone worked tirelessly to advance mental health parity for all citizens of the United States;

Whereas more than 44,000,000 citizens of the United States suffer from some form of a mental health-related condition;

Whereas only $\frac{1}{3}$ of those citizens seek or receive treatment for their mental health-related condition;

Whereas 34 States have enacted laws that require some form of access to mental health treatments that is similar to physical health coverage; and

Whereas the tragic and premature death of Paul Wellstone on October 25, 2002, silenced 1 of the leading voices of the Senate who spoke on behalf of the citizens of the United States who live with a mental illness: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

2 (1) on the fourth anniversary of his passing,
3 Senator Paul Wellstone should be remembered for
4 his compassion and leadership on social issues
5 throughout his career;

6 (2) Congress should act to end the discrimina-
7 tion against citizens of the United States who live
8 with a mental illness by guaranteeing equal status

1 for mental and physical illness by health insurance
2 companies; and

3 (3) mental health parity legislation should be a
4 priority for consideration in the 110th Congress.

○