From:	
То:	ETF SMB Board Feedback
Subject:	Coverage of Anti-Obesity Medication
Date:	Monday, February 10, 2025 8:20:39 AM

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Dear Group Insurance Board Members,

My name is Kathryn Woods and I'm a school psychologist in Glendale, Wisconsin. I've worked here for 10 years and am a proud member of WEAC, the largest labor union in Wisconsin with tens of thousands of members working across the state to provide a great education and support services to nearly 900,000 children and teens enrolled in our public schools.

I am writing today to respectfully request that this board reconsider its past decision refusing to expand coverage for the latest FDA approved anti-obesity medications (AOMs) to ensure that Wisconsin public employee benefits reflect the importance of our work to the functioning of our state and the quality of life that encourages people to live, work, and raise families here. As you know, Wisconsin is a regional outlier in not providing these benefits to its public employees. Fundamental fairness, public health, future budget savings and competitiveness as an employer of choice should dictate that Wisconsin join its peers in providing AOM coverage where clinically indicated by one's health care provider.

Obesity is a serious chronic disease that impacts the quality of life for so many people. As I am sure you know, obesity is associated with dangerous health conditions such as cancer, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and mobility issues. All of these conditions are costly and reduce the ability for educators to lead quality lives. Without insurance coverage, the cost of medications to help prevent or treat obesity are simply out of reach. No one got into education for the paycheck. We got into this profession for the love of children and hoping to make our communities, state, and even the world a better place. I sincerely hope you reconsider covering these life-saving medications.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Kathryn Woods