

From: [REDACTED]
To: [ETF SMB Board Feedback](#)
Subject: Please cover AOC's for teachers
Date: Monday, February 10, 2025 2:40:32 PM

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Dear Group Insurance Board Members,

My name is Stephanie and I'm a teacher with the Wausau School District in Wisconsin. I've worked here for 17 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.

Being able to afford and use AOC's will improve quality of life and help retain educators. Obesity is a serious medical condition linked to numerous health problems, including heart disease, diabetes, and certain cancers. For many, medications are a crucial part of managing their weight and improving their health, but the cost of these treatments is often a barrier.

Covering these medications would not only improve the health of your policyholders but could also lead to long-term cost savings by reducing the incidence of chronic, costly health conditions. Providing access to these medications is an investment in both individual well-being and the overall sustainability of the healthcare system.

I ask that you reconsider the exclusion of anti-obesity medications from your coverage and support healthier, more effective treatment options for your members.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Zingler