

Dear Representative Noor,

I want to personally thank you for all your hard work this year for individuals with disabilities and families that have children with disabilities.

I am writing to ask that you continue to advocate eliminating parental fees. The parental fee is a tax on disability and creates a hardship for many families. The fee is put into the general fund. Please continue to advocate eliminating TEFRA fees in the disability services omnibus bill. (SF2934/HF2847)

My family is personally affected by this issue in that we have participated in TEFRA since August of 2020 to participate in MA for our adopted teenage daughter with FASD, ADHD, anxiety, a speech impediment & dyslexia. We would have applied sooner as our adopted daughter qualified, yet TEFRA was out of reach financially for a small grain farm family especially during 2016-2020 when crop prices were extremely low. Even when we finally did apply, our family was in the process of retiring, selling our family farm (which has taken three years) & although the sale of a business or home is supposed to be exempt from income, this was only allowed once. In the last three years of paying, our family TEFRA tax has been annually; 2020 - \$1700 after an appeal, \$25,000 in 2021, \$16,000 in 2022. Each year we sold a piece of our farm, yet the state's general fund taxed us additional for trying to retire & have our adopted, disabled daughter (from the state system) on the waiver.

Eliminating the parental fee would make a huge difference in our family and many other families in Minnesota. Thank you for being a voice for families that have children with disabilities and always advocating for the disability community.

Thank you personally for supporting Minnesota disabled children & their families!

Sincerely,
Shannon D. Peterson
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