



April 15, 2025

Dear Chairs Backer and Bierman:

On behalf of the Minnesota Department of Human Services, thank you for your work in supporting Minnesota Health Care Programs, including Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare. These programs are critical safety nets for more than 1 million Minnesotans, enabling people to live their healthiest and fullest lives.

I appreciate that you incorporated funding for the Governor's HR1 federal conformity budget recommendation in the House Health supplemental budget bill (HF 4466). Without adequate administrative funding and law changes, Minnesota will not be able to implement the new HR1 Medicaid requirements as required by federal law. DHS needs the resources necessary to comply with the new eligibility requirements, minimize workforce burdens on local government, and conduct outreach with impacted community members. All of this work must be completed on accelerated timelines and states are working largely without CMS guidance.

The new federal Medicaid requirements represent the most substantial upheaval of Medicaid eligibility and program requirements since the program was established over 60 years ago. The impact on Minnesota's health care infrastructure, local governments, and individuals across the state will be significant, resulting in severe cuts to the program and more people becoming uninsured. Minnesota's implementation approach is to mitigate as much harm as possible to hospitals, providers, local governments, and beneficiaries. As discussions continue, I look forward to exploring the most flexible options for impacted people, including a 1-month look-back for work requirements.

Our team will continue to analyze the bill and provide feedback and technical assistance. Thank you again for your support and collaboration.

Sincerely,

John Connolly  
Deputy Commissioner & Medicaid Director  
Minnesota Department of Human Services