



May 2, 2023

Dear Members of Conference Committee on SF 2995:

The Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota (EFMN) serves people with epilepsy and seizures across Minnesota. Epilepsy is a neurological condition that is defined as having more than one unprovoked seizures. One in 26 people will develop epilepsy in their lifetime, and 1 in 10 will have a seizure in their lifetime. We are writing today to express our appreciation for provisions included in both the House and Senate language, as well as to identify provisions we would like to see included in the final conference committee report.

Thank you to all conference committee members for their support of language that will cover seizure detection devices under Medical Assistance. This language is in both the House and Senate language, and we are so grateful for this important provision that can decrease risk of death and increase quality of life for those living with epilepsy in Minnesota.

EFMN also strongly supports updating the Drug Formulary Committee (DFC) Composition and modifying the process for updating the Preferred Drug List (PDL). The DFC and PDL have a large impact on how people with epilepsy and other chronic conditions are able to access their medications, and updating the composition to include more of a patient perspective, and modifying the process to be more transparent will be beneficial to all patients who rely on Minnesota Health Care programs to access their medications. We urge the committee to consider adopting compromise language from the Department, patient advocates, and providers.

EFMN supports provisions that allow people with a suspected rare disease to go out of network to access specialty care. There are a number of epilepsies that are considered rare, and people with rare epilepsies can have hundreds of seizures a day. It is essential people with rare diseases are able to access a specialist for diagnosis and care as early in their diagnostic journey as possible to increase quality of life, and potentially decrease costs to the family and the healthcare system, by receiving specialty care earlier.

EFMN would also like to reiterate our support for MinnesotaCare eligibility for undocumented Minnesotans. Being able to access consistent care, as well as emergency care is essential for all people living with epilepsy, and we encourage you to accept the House provisions, which includes eligibility for both undocumented children and adults.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Glen Lloyd". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Glen Lloyd  
Executive Director  
Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota