



March 8, 2022

The Honorable Jennifer Schultz  
Chair, Minnesota House Human Services Finance and Policy Committee  
473 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Schultz,

This is Medicaid (TIM) is a coalition of over 50 nonpartisan advocacy, direct service, and faith-based organizations that partner to support policy solutions that increase the efficacy of the Minnesota Medicaid program. We are writing today to express our support for HF 4096, which will improve access to home and community-based services for older Minnesotans and people with disabilities.

Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) allow people with disabilities to live at home and be fully integrated into the community to live full and meaningful lives.

Currently, people with disabilities and older adults who need long-term care may wait up to 90 days to establish eligibility for public programs such as Medicaid. This can result in pushing individuals who prefer home-based care to nursing homes, which have been especially strained due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This bill will allow those who support people with disabilities and older adults, such as waiver case managers, nurses, or social workers to use basic financial information and screening tools to presume a low-income individual is eligible for Medicaid and begin home-based services, even before an official Medicaid determination is made. As a result, people are able to remain in their homes instead of being admitted to a nursing home, which can result in potential savings for the state, and better quality of life for people with disabilities and older adults.

This is Medicaid asks you to support HF 4096.

*This Is Medicaid* is a diverse coalition of nonpartisan organizations from across Minnesota partnering to strengthen and protect Medicaid. Our member organizations advocate for or directly serve people who receive health care and supports through Medicaid, called Medical Assistance in Minnesota.

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