

Yingya Vang

From: jeffanitabb@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 12:07 PM
To: Yingya Vang
Cc: Jennifer Schultz
Subject: FW: PCAs ability to drives clients while on duty

Importance: High

Dear Yingva,

Would it be possible to enter my message to Representative Schultz for tomorrow's Committee Hearing? Please see the message below. I do not need testify.

Thank you.

Jeff

Jeff Bangsberg, Disability Advocate
New Hope, MN

From: jeffanitabb@gmail.com <jeffanitabb@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 10:13 AM
To: Rep. Jennifer Schultz <rep.jennifer.schultz@house.mn>
Cc: Phillip Cryan <phillip.cryan@seihucmn.org>; 'Vicki Gerrits' <vicki@mnfcs.org>; Dena Belisle <dena@adenallc.com>; Dively, David (MCD) <david.dively@state.mn.us>; 'Graume, Kristy L (DHS)' <kristy.graume@state.mn.us>; Merz, Natasha M (DHS) <natasha.m.merz@state.mn.us>
Subject: PCAs ability to drives clients while on duty
Importance: High

Dear Chair Schultz,

It is my understanding that you plan to review legislation that was passed last year relating to Home and Community Based services tomorrow, Tuesday, February 15th in the Health and Human Services Committee.

My reason for writing you is to alert you about the ability for Personal Care Assistants (PCA) to drive clients in the community. As you may recall, last summer the Health and Human services Conference Committee agreed to incorporate the ability for PCAs to drive clients while on duty working for individuals receiving these services through Medical Assistance. To date, PCAs still **cannot** drive clients receiving these services while on duty.

Unfortunately, at the last minute, DHS wanted the driving provision included only in the CFSS statute and not in both the PCA and CFSS statutes as had been done with many legislative proposals and changes for years because CFSS has been repeatedly delayed. Because this delay does not have clarity in resolution, we are asking you to consider inserting the term 'PCA' into statute. This relatively small change has a major impact for people with disabilities who receive these services. People with disabilities who receive these services and cannot drive need assistance getting to medical appointments, work, grocery stores, etc.

I believe all lawmakers (involved with negotiating this provision into law) intent was to allow these Direct Care workers to provide this activity last summer.

Therefore, we request that you add the term Personal Care Assistant into Minnesota statute as soon as possible. This will allow the department of Human Services to enable PCAs to drive clients in the community while they're on duty. If you have any questions, or would like further clarification, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Jeff

Jeff Bangsberg, Disability Advocate
763-438-5805 cell