



Dear Legislators,

I am writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed implementation of Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) for Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS) programs as outlined in HF3634.

Our IRTS programs serve individuals with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI), many of whom struggle with severe paranoia and anxiety. The requirement to sign off on daily time sheets or verify services electronically would create significant distress for our clients. Many already find it challenging to complete basic admission paperwork. Expecting them to provide signatures or electronic verification for 24-hour services each day is not only burdensome but could also undermine their therapeutic progress.

Our staff are already stretched thin, dedicating their time to providing direct care, ensuring client wellbeing hour by hour, and thoroughly documenting all individual and group therapy sessions as required by state regulations. Adding EVV requirements would divert critical resources away from client care and toward redundant administrative tasks.

It is difficult to understand why IRTS has been categorized as a high-risk program for fraud, given the extensive oversight and documentation already mandated by the state. A review of Chapter 245I statute clearly demonstrates the rigorous standards IRTS providers must meet. Any lawmaker who spends a day at an IRTS site would see firsthand that EVV would not enhance fraud prevention, but would instead create unnecessary barriers to care.

We respectfully urge you to reconsider the inclusion of IRTS programs in the EVV requirements proposed in HF3634. Our focus must remain on supporting the most vulnerable members of our community not on adding administrative burdens that do not improve outcomes or accountability.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,
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