



Senator Abeler
Senator Utke
Senator Koran
Senator Benson
Senator Hoffman

Representative Liebling
Representative Schultz
Representative Gomez
Representative Pinto
Representative Albright

Dear Conference HHS Committee Members (SF 4410):

Thank you for your commitment to improving the quality of life for Minnesotan's affected by brain injury. In addition to addressing the workforce crisis so that people with brain injury can access the staff supports and services they need, we appreciate efforts that help lift individuals with disabilities out of such deep poverty that most programs require in order to qualify for Medical Assistance (MA).

Specifically, we are asking you to please support House funding and language that increases the MA income and asset standards that for too long have left people with disabilities behind.

House Article 3: Section 16 (Page R19) – Increases the asset limit for individuals in the MA low income elderly and disabled category from \$3,000 to \$20,00 and for families from \$6,000 to \$40,000.

House Article 3: Section 17 (Page R21) – Increases the income limit in the low income elderly and disabled category from 100% of the Federal Poverty Guideline to 133%.

While the difficulty of expecting people with brain injury to successfully live in the community on assets under \$3,000 and income below \$1,000 per month needs no further elaboration, we understand this requires a significant investment of resources which is why it is phased in over the next 3-4 years. It will address a long-term inequity in how individuals with disabilities quality for services.

We implore you to reach for this tremendous opportunity and support the House language.

Thank you for what you have done so far and for your consideration of getting this over the finish line.

Jeff Nachbar
Public Policy Director