



# Minnesota

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March 24, 2015

Representative Nick Zerwas  
433 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Representative Zerwas,

AARP strongly supports your legislation to raise the income standards for people with disabilities and seniors (HF559).

For many seniors who will no longer qualify for the Elderly Waiver program in 2015 due to the new Nursing Home Level of care criteria, seniors will now be expected to spend down to 75% of the poverty level to retain Medicaid. We are concerned that many of these seniors may not have adequate resources to continue living independently in the community after meeting the spend down.

With the passage of the Affordable Care Act and the expansion for single adults to 138% of federal poverty, your bill continues the promise of federal reform to provide the same standard for people with disabilities and seniors to obtain affordable health care.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Will Phillips  
AARP State Director

