

March 25, 2025

House Human Services Committee

Subject: HF666 - Modifications to MA-EPD

Dear Human Service Committee Members,

The Multicultural Autism Action Network (MAAN) is a non-profit organization which supports families of children with disabilities in our multicultural communities. We are writing to express strong support for HF666 which would modify Medical Assistance for Employed Persons with Disabilities.

We strongly support measures that would prohibit Medical Assistance recipients from being cut off from services for non-payment of MA premiums. Most people receiving MA-EPD also pay premiums for private insurance, so having to pay additional premiums for medical assistance which allows them to receive the care they need is an unnecessary burden. We would like to see MA-EPD premiums eliminated altogether, as the state has a vested interest in removing barriers for people with disabilities who wish to work rather than creating new obstacles that do not exist for people without disabilities.

As members of this committee are well aware, MA-EPD premiums for employed persons with disabilities were intended to be eliminated at the same time parental fees for TEFRA were to be eliminated, and this did not happen as a result of a paperwork error. Although we would like to see legislation which eliminates MA-EPD fees altogether, this bill is a step in the right direction, and we strongly encourage your support.

Thank you for your consideration,

Multicultural Autism Action Network

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