

Attn: Administrator Owen Neubauer —

I am writing in support of Minnesota Senate Bill SF 182 to eliminate the lien against my estate for costs associated from being on Medical Assistance.

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Here's a snapshot of my story: I started my retirement in 2013, taking out a private medical insurance policy until I qualified for Medicare. In the fall of 2013, I visited the MNSure site and applied online. My application showed "pending" for many weeks. Then I was finally approved for Medical Assistance beginning January 2014. I called MNSure and said that I didn't want to be on Medical Assistance but was told I did not have a choice. I was told that this was the program I qualified for and I didn't get to choose programs. So my choice was basically to accept the state sponsored program of Medical Assistance--or--continue with my current private policy which was increasing from a monthly premium of \$525. (Those costs were simply not sustainable.) What kind of choice was that? I wasn't looking for "free" health care. This didn't seem right but this was all I was told I qualified for. I have read and reread my paperwork from 2014 and 2015 and could find NOTHING that talks about my estate being responsible for costs paid on my behalf.

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Having had no knowledge of the estate lien/recovery process for costs associated with being on Medical Assistance, I want to express my SUPPORT of this Bill.

I am grateful for your presentation of Bill SF 182 to remove the estate lien/recovery of Medical Assistance costs.

Respectfully,

Joan McAlister
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