



March 20, 2023

Re: SF 2265

Chair Marty and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support for SF 2265.

This Is Medicaid (TIM) is a diverse coalition of more than 50 nonpartisan organizations from across Minnesota partnering to protect and improve Medicaid. We seek measurable and positive outcomes for all Minnesotans – in particular, policies that improve the health outcomes of Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) communities; address geographic, racial, and economic inequities; and promote health justice in Minnesota. TIM is committed to identifying opportunities to preserve and improve Minnesota’s Medicaid program, Medical Assistance, as we continue to grapple with the pandemic and the compounding health impacts it leaves in its wake. **We believe this proposal will help improve our system which will support Minnesotans as they recover and better serve them into the future.**

The public health emergency unwinding process is incredibly important and fraught. The U.S. Department of Human Services predicts that of the 15 million people nationally that may be determined ineligible for Medicaid during unwinding from the PHE continuous eligibility, **nearly half (45%, 6.8 million) will be eligible to remain enrolled, but will lose coverage due to a temporary loss of coverage in which enrollees disenroll and then re-enroll within a short period of time known as “churn”.** This will disrupt their care until they reapply.

Providing Minnesota DHS and navigators the necessary resources to do this job well is essential. Low-income adults, children and families, elderly, and disabled Minnesotans are all depending on the state to do our best.

We urge you to pass SF 2265 to help ensure as many Minnesotans as possible are able to retain their coverage without harmful interruptions. Please reach out to us with any questions or concerns at thisismedicaid@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Erin Sutton and Michelle SanCartier

This is Medicaid Co-Conveners

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