

February 15, 2023

TO: Anna Burke, administrator, Senate Health & Human Services Committee

FROM: Lisa Krahn, Pine City, Minnesota

RE: **SF 404** a bill to allow Medical Assistance enrollees to opt out of managed care to be heard on February 16, 2023

To the committee:

Managed care offers an *illusion of choice* to Medical Assistance enrollees.

In my day job at the Seven County Senior Federation, I help older adults apply for need-based programs. I congratulate them for their persistence on coming up with the proper documentation for a Medical Assistance application, and then interpret the letter they receive that awards coverage. That should be the end of the story.

Instead, a new MA enrollee is mailed multiple fat packets from competing companies and pressed to make a coverage choice. I am then asked by the client “Am I supposed to read all this? What’s the difference? What if I choose wrong? Help!”

Provider lists aside, the managed care company is not providing any direct care.

I explain that they should just pick one; however, I would prefer to explain that the MA enrollee could also choose “none of the above” to simply be covered for needed care with no intermediary.

Please consider **Senate File 404** for passage and support its companion bill, House File 816.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this bill with written testimony.