



March 31, 2023

Re: SF 2995a-2

Chair Wiklund and Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to share our comments on SF 2995a-2.

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. While our coalition is thankful for many of the provisions included in SF 2995-a2, we want to extend our thanks for your inclusion of:

- **Continuous Medical Assistance Eligibility for Children**
- **Medical Assistance Coverage for Seizure Detection Devices**
- **Medical Assistance Coverage for Recuperative Care**
- **Expansion of the DHS Drug Formulary Committee and Preferred Drug List Reform - Including Access to Liquid Medications**

We respectfully ask that you please include:

- **Increased Access to Services for the Diagnosis, Monitoring, and Treatment of Rare Diseases (SF 1029)**

We believe this legislation has the potential of helping many Minnesotans, including those enrolled in Medical Assistance, and could actually result in cost savings to the state. For an undiagnosed rare disease, multiple diagnostic tests, medical appointments, repeated emergency room visits, and ultimately unwarranted interventions can add to the costs of the disease. Many people with rare diseases experience irreversible damage as the disease progresses. Some may miss points in time when interventions could help. Access to the right provider at the right time can provide cost savings to both the health care system as a whole, and to individual patients and their families. Most importantly SF 1029 can increase quality of life for Minnesotans on Medical Assistance with a rare disease.

Please reach out to us with any questions or concerns at [thisismedicaid@gmail.com](mailto:thisismedicaid@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

Erin Sutton and Michelle SanCartier  
This is Medicaid Co-Conveners

[thisismedicaid@gmail.com](mailto:thisismedicaid@gmail.com)