

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Testimony in Support of HB 2878

House Committee on Behavioral Health and Healthcare Tuesday, March 22nd, 2023

Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Goodwin and Nelson, and members of the committee, thank you for your time today and for your consideration of HB 2878. I urge your aye vote.

As a pediatrician in private practice, I know how important the work of a primary care physician is – and how important our relationships with our patients are to their health outcomes. By establishing an outcomes-based global budget system as opposed to our current fee-for-service model, our patients' wellbeing would be placed at the center of our medical system. This paradigm shift in the way that healthcare is paid for would disincentivize costly, unnecessary treatment which does not benefit the patient and emphasize solid health outcomes and preventative and primary care.

While this would represent a major evolution in our healthcare system and patients would benefit from the emphasis on outcomes, patients would *not* have to endure complicated and unnecessary bureaucratic changes as a result. All the changes brought about by this global budget model would happen behind the scenes between the insurer, the state, and the providers. Patients would keep their same insurance plan, their same premiums, their same insurance card, and, crucially, their same providers and same clinics. Maintaining a solid relationship with a primary care provider who knows you and your medical history is so beneficial to a patient's health – especially a young patient – and this plan would not interfere with that relationship.

In the same vein, this model recognizes the crucially important work that primary care physicians, and, yes, pediatricians, offer to our public health. These roles are currently some of the lowest compensated physicians in healthcare, simply because we do not offer the same type of costly billable procedures that many of our colleagues do. By removing the fee-for-service model, we can recognize that prevention and primary care are just as important to overall health as a costly medical procedure.

Thank you again for your time and consideration of this important measure. I urge your aye vote.

Sincerely,

Representative Lisa Reynolds, MD

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