

Submitter: W Kline

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB20

I am a young adult with developmental disabilities and employment is my primary connection to the community and source of social interaction. As much as I like my job I do not have any goals for career advancement, because a promotion or even simply more hours could risk my access to Medicaid. The developmental disability services I rely on are not available through private insurance or direct payments, you are required to be on Medicaid to access these services.

Additionally, Medicaid's rules are quite confusing. I rely on family and support people to manage my finances and government benefits. I'm not sure how much I'm allowed to work before it would impact my services eligibility. For example, I have the opportunity to work at some big events which would mean lots more hours for a month. If one month is over the income limit does that cause problems, or is it only an issue if my yearly total is over the limit? When a question like this comes up I ask someone at my brokerage, but even with all their experience they can never give me a firm answer and it seems like I get a different answer from every person I ask. Passing SB20 and removing the income/asset limits would remove these challenges.

Thank you for your consideration.