



March 18, 2022

To: Chair Tina Liebling & Members of the House Health Finance Committee  
Re: HF 4157

Dear Chair Liebling and members of the committee,

We write to share the perspectives of the *This is Medicaid* (TIM) coalition and our support for House File 4157. TIM is a diverse coalition of more than 50 organizations from across Minnesota who are dedicated to protecting and strengthening Medicaid. We believe health and well-being are vital to strong and thriving Minnesota families and communities, and that Minnesotans should be able to get the health care they need, when and where they need it.

House File 4157 will further these important goals, and we write to share our support. This bill will help ensure that Minnesotans who are eligible for Medicaid retain their eligibility and will reduce churn, or people being repeatedly dropped off of Medicaid and re-enrolling months later.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Medicaid participants have retained eligibility due to the federal emergency and maintenance of effort requirements. This has offered a unique picture into the ebb and flow of Medicaid enrollment. During the pandemic, new monthly enrollments decreased significantly, as people who had previously been dropped and then required to reenroll no longer needed to. This suggests that people who had been dropped from Medicaid were not dropped because they were truly ineligible, and instead were likely dropped because of paperwork or contact issues. Minnesota can act on this knowledge and adopt enrollment policies that reduce the unnecessary churn and provide continuity in health care.

Being able to rely on predictable coverage is essential for people to participate in preventative health care, plan for needed care, and receive ongoing medications and any therapies. This will improve the health outcomes for Minnesotans who use Medicaid will be an important step in addressing disparities in health outcomes.

Thank you for your consideration of this important bill and for your commitment to the health of all Minnesotans. We urge you to advance House File 4157.

Sincerely,

This is Medicaid Coalition

*This Is Medicaid* is a diverse coalition of nonpartisan organizations from across Minnesota partnering to strengthen and protect Medicaid. Our member organizations advocate for or directly serve people who receive health care and supports through Medicaid, called Medical Assistance in Minnesota.

Find us at [www.thisismedicaid.org](http://www.thisismedicaid.org) and on Facebook and Twitter.