

State of Wisconsin Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities 1 WEST WILSON STREET, ROOM 551 POST OFFICE BOX 2659 MADISON, WI 53701-2659 Telephone: 608-266-9354 Website: gcpd.wisconsin.gov

March 4, 2022

Dear Governor Evers,

I am writing on behalf of the Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities (GCPD), a Committee charged with advising the Governor and state agencies on matters affecting people with disabilities. We urge you to veto Senate Bill 905 and Senate Bill 912 as both of these bills would negatively impact people with disabilities.

Senate Bill 905 proposes changes regarding Medicaid eligibility determinations that would negatively impact people with disabilities by requiring Medicaid eligibility redetermination every six months instead of the current twelve months. This would create unnecessary obstacles for people with disabilities to maintain continuity in Medicaid coverage, increasing the risk of health and safety of people with disabilities. According to the Fiscal Estimate, the bill would increase administrative costs by more than \$45 million in administrative costs for State and tribal organizations by doubling the workload related to Medicaid eligibility determinations. Additionally, because provisions of the bill do not comply with federal requirements, Wisconsin may lose millions in federal Medicaid funding each year.

Senate Bill 912 would impose penalties on certain "able-bodied" Medicaid members for not accepting a job offer or not agreeing to work more hours, regardless of the nature of the job or how many additional work hours were offered. The GCPD believes all people of all ability levels should have the right to work. We support employment for people with disabilities who are Medicaid members, and we believe the Medicaid program should have strong incentives for people to work. Punitive actions, including the provisions of SB 912 will only serve as disincentives for Medicaid members to pursue work for fear that if they decline any job offer or increase in work hours may cause them to lose their Medicaid insurance. This bill is taking Medicaid policy in the wrong direction.

The GCPD respectfully requests that you veto SB 905 and SB 912 as they are detrimental to people with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Margaret Kristan

Margaret Kristan, GCPD Chair