

My husband has been an amputee since May of 2010 due to a motorcycle accident, he was struck by a 94 year old driver. We have certainly gone through our battles, from the accident, to the long hospital stay, the decision to amputate and the long road to recovery and learning how to walk again. My husband works hard and long hours at times for the NDDOT, this amputation has never slowed him down, even on his bad days and being confined to a wheelchair he keeps pushing. Being an amputee and wearing a prosthetic comes with its shares of ups and downs, we never had issues getting approval for prosthetic devices for his leg the first 10 years, it wasn't until Sanford took over from BCBS that we discovered that according to the policy it's 1 limb a lifetime. If your not familiar with what it's like to live in the life of an amputee, do all amputees a favor and start researching the struggles they go through and you will understand how 1 limb a lifetime is unethical. Saying that once you're 18 you don't get anymore limbs is asinine, does one's body not change after they are 18? My husband has needed a new fitting for a prosthetic for at least 6 months. He has a sore on his limb from the poor fitting he has now due to change in shape and size of limb that he has to wear a special medical pad over it in order to prevent more damage, these pads are \$50 per box at our local medical store and we go through 3 per month just to get him buy and able to continue walking. Without prosthetic device I'm not sure my husband would be able to keep the job he has, his job doesn't allow wheelchairs in the middle of highways building roads. He is a government worker and worries daily how long he can keep going, due to not knowing how much longer he can continue wearing this prosthetic device because it no longer fits properly. We have 3 children 12, 8 and 5, they have watched him struggle and become depressed when wheelchair bound. They see him no differently with or without a leg, but Jason sees him self as less without his prosthetic, this gives him the freedom to

walk, and play in the backyard with his kids and be the dad he wants to be. I am begging you to please look at your loved ones, or picture yourself losing a limb and being told you don't get anymore coverage, your stuck in a wheelchair unless you have a benefit asking people for financial help to purchase a limb. Please take the time to put yourself in all amputees shoes. Especially those covered under Sanford NDPERS. Jason is not the only patient who is an amputee under this coverage struggling with the same issues. There are a lot more, a lot that don't even know I've been fighting for this change since 2021. I pray to see change for everyone. They deserve the same comfort that we are blessed to have everyday having our limbs.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony.