

House Appropriations, HR Section

House Bill 1012

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

Chairman Nelson and members of the committee,

My name is Ashley Tanata and I am the Training and Quality Assurance Specialist of Triumph, Inc., Jamestown, North Dakota. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in favor of HB 1012.

I am writing to you in hopes you will see a bigger picture of the individuals whom we support, in addition to, the personnel who are the “boots on the ground” for our local agency, as well as other agencies throughout the State of North Dakota. Triumph, Inc. provides active supports to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities with a person-centered approach. Active support is helping people to be actively, consistently, and meaningfully engaged in their own lives regardless of their support needs. With daily support our individuals are engaged in a variety of life activities and opportunities of their own choice. They attend community events, volunteer throughout the community, work in the community and so much more. Our services are a training program, not a “do it for you” program. Without funding, our individuals would not have the resources needed to reach their full potential and live their lives to the fullest. These words are forever etched in my mind: “I will never leave a fallen comrade.” Without House Bill 1012, essentially this is what the state will be doing to agencies like our own. Without our services, individuals will no longer have individualized plans, support to live on their own, or support to work.

1. Inflationary Increase of 4% and 3%

It is essential to ensure that reimbursement rates are adjusted to account for inflation. An increase of 4% and 3% will help providers manage rising costs while continuing to offer high-quality services to those in need. Without these adjustments, the ability to recruit and retain qualified staff, as well as maintain service levels, is at serious risk. This increase aligns with the federal inflation levels for the previous two years.

2. Increase Reimbursement Rates on ICF and Res Hab to 100%

3. Remove the Requirement for Accreditation

With the demand of accreditation, we are slowly losing valued time that should be focused more on day-to-day engagement with our individuals.

In conclusion, I urge you to support these items to strengthen the services and supports on which so many individuals and families depend.



Ashley Tanata

Training and Quality Assurance Specialist