

Chairwomen Lee and Committee,

My name is Krisanna Peterson. I am coming here today to have you vote no on SB 2076. I have a son who is 18 years old and lives in Bismarck ND. The reason I am coming to talk to you today is the concern about Prior Auths being required for medicaid patients. My son qualifies for medicaid because he is on the DD waiver. He has multiple disabilities. But his mental health is most concerning as he can be suicidal. I believe that requiring Prior Auths for his psych medications would be a concern for others who have medicaid. Many who have medicaid also have a mental health diagnosis. My son's mental health struggles have been so severe that he can quickly act on suicidal thoughts.

I am not sure if anyone here has ever dealt with medicaid but it's very difficult and has gotten more difficult over the years. They are probably the most difficult insurance I have ever dealt with in my life. I am an advocate and have contacted people in the pharmacy before regarding my son's medication. We had a drug that worked and all of a sudden they wanted a generic, which didn't work. when they didnt work. They made my kid try every generic. Do you have any idea how that messed up my kid? He didn't even want to take them. Some trials of meds can ruin a person. It takes a long time for psych meds to work, to see if they will ever work for someone. To delay that is even harder on the person or the person taking care of the person.

I would like you to vote against this bill as It will affect kids or adults like my son. I am always afraid he may commit suicide and I know that is something that will ruin me. My son is capable of some amazing things. Maybe he can find the cure for cancer if he can get the proper accommodations while he is in college. He is interested in genetics.

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