



February 1, 2017

Dear Senators:

Disability Rights Nebraska, as the designated Protection and Advocacy organization in Nebraska, writes to offer our support for LB 442.

We support the effort on LB 442 to create the Medical Assistance Managed Care Organization Oversight Committee. Given the importance of the medical assistance program for people with disabilities and the changes that will be ushered in by managed care within that program, it is appropriate that there be a mechanism to hold managed care organizations accountable to medical assistance recipients and the public. Additionally, we support the creation of this oversight committee so that it is clear what the results of managed care; the required comparison in the bill for pre-managed care expenses, quality, etc. is a key mechanism to produce such clear results. We further support the requirement that the committee hold at least two public hearings each year. While the oversight committee itself holds promise to understand more fully the impact of medical assistance managed care, especially from a fiscal or quality standpoint, it is also of the utmost importance to understand the impact from the individual or consumer point of view.

We would only have a few friendly suggestions about the specified content of some committee research areas. These are not meant to diminish our support for the bill, but rather some issues that the oversight committee should address in their briefing and report in Section 2:

1. Include a description of how quality is measured; is quality measured by a survey instrument, site visits, or interviews with recipients?
2. Include a description of the number, types, and resolution of grievances made. Even if this may be intended in the language "quantitative case data and summaries of case resolution by the managed care organization" (see pg. 3, lines 26-27), the language could be clarified so that the intent is clearer. It is important to know not only the grievance procedures, but also what the grievances were and how they were resolved.



Again, Disability Rights Nebraska supports LB 442 and its mandate for clarity, oversight, and transparency of medical assistance managed care in Nebraska and would suggest the bill advance.

Sincerely,

Bradley A. Meurrens, MPA
Public Policy Director
Disability Rights Nebraska