

December 17, 2018

To: Health Policy Oversight Committee

From: Deb McMahon, Advocate for the vulnerable, Member of Iowa Parents for People

Re: Issues with the privatization of Medicaid

Unfortunately I will not have the opportunity to speak during the public comments due to a conference call with Iowa Parents for People and Senator Petersen and Senator Jochum at 11:00 AM.

My concern has always been that the MCOs care more about profits than they do the recipients of Medicaid. My daughter, Annie, is not a number. And the other Medicaid members are not either.

Her current case manager, though pleasant, is unable to help with problems with IME or DHS. It is a conflict of interest. I have tried to understand how this helps. I would like to have our former case manager back. She was with us for almost fifteen years and knows our family and Annie's needs.

I also am very concerned about the overpayments to Unity Point. Allowing them to keep it shows a total lack of responsibility and integrity. Any idea how far \$2.4 million would go to help the vulnerable in our state?

The amount of paperwork that flows through my home is unbelievable. Every year I must fill out duplicate forms that cannot be handled by one person. This is due to the fact that my daughter is on MEPD which allows her to have more than \$2,000.00 in her savings account.

I am also concerned about who will be Annie's advocate when I am no longer able. I am her voice now but who will make sure she and the others will not be forgotten? Who will make sure she is not just a number? And who will act like they care and treat her with dignity and respect?

The privatization of Medicaid has been a mistake. It has not helped those who need it most. And it has been a numbers game where the numbers simply do not add up.