



The Best Life Alliance 2019 Legislative Proposal ends a destabilizing cut to community-based disability services rates and takes steps to address the severe workforce shortage impacting the critical supports accessed by thousands of Minnesotans with disabilities to live and work in their communities.

32,000 Minnesotans with disabilities rely on community-based services to live their best lives – 95% of which are paid for by Medical Assistance. Payment rates for these services are set by the state, and directly effects staff wages.

Communications from the federal government in February 2018 led the state to cut the reimbursement for community-based disability services by 7% totaling a loss of \$147 million of funding over three years. This was not a legislated action, and state law still allocates this funding as legislators intended, to Minnesotans with disabilities.

Not addressing this cut sends Minnesota in the wrong direction, threatening the services and supports Minnesotans with disabilities need in order to be as independent as possible in their communities.

Legislation addressing this critical issue of preserving access to community-based disability services is unfinished business and should be moved immediately – it received broad bi-partisan, bicameral support during the 2018 legislative session.

SF XXXX

HF XXXX

- Restores the 7% rate cut by implementing a Competitive Workforce Factor
- Adjusts the timing of the automatic rate adjustments to every two years to better keep pace with actual economic conditions.

Passing the Best Life Alliance legislation will end the 7% cut and set our disability services rate system on a more sustainable path into the future.



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