

TESTIMONY OF BILL LEVIS IN SUPPORT OF HB25-1162
BEFORE SENATE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
APRIL 9, 2025

Mr. Chair and members of the committee. I am Bill Levis, the father and legal guardian of my disabled son who lives in Sen. Daugherty's district. He receives Social Security Disability Income, Medicaid, Medicare, the brain injury waiver and state PTC rebate program. Based on my experience in applying for benefits the last 19 years and having to file at least four yearly reports, I strongly support House Bill 1162 which would streamline the Medicaid reapplications process.

Even though I am a former assistant attorney general, past president of the Brain Injury Association of Colorado and an advocate with AARP, I have experienced difficulty and frustration in getting my son's Medicaid renewed. There have been occasions when his initial renewal application was rejected and it had to be resubmitted. In so doing, I have had difficulty reaching someone at the county Medicaid office and getting someone to respond to my calls and emails. In addition, caseworkers often change, sometimes yearly, which means they have to be educated, not only concerning the system, but also about my son's status. The state's Peak reporting website can also be challenging.

If I, as a lawyer, am having trouble navigating a complicated system, imagine what other people with limited time and skills have been going through. This bill not only should lessen the need for redetermination but also should lighten the counties' caseload and make it easier to reach caseworkers.

For these reasons, I support the passage of House Bill 1162.