

Submitter: Lotus Teegarden

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB61

As a clinical social worker who largely works with Medicaid I spend an inordinate amount of time ensuring adequate documentation, which is fair and to-be-expected in this business, however also is motivated by a fear of audits and less actual clinical necessity, which of course has mistakes at times. If I were to have clawbacks in my business, primarily working with complex trauma, substance use disorders for folks actively using, LGBTQIA* populations, and houseless folks, I would be put under significant strain and be less able to provide needed care to our community, especially as clawbacks related to minor documentation errors are arbitrary for the actual quality of care provided. I do my best work as a clinician, and although completely recognize needing to be aware of details and adjust mistakes, clawbacks for mistakes that could be remedied with communication would create a more secure relationship with Medicaid and stability in my career, and for my clients.