

Submitter: Elizabeth VanBuecken  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB61

I am a licensed mental health therapist who works with a significant number of Medicaid clients. My speciality is treating adults who were victims of childhood abuse. I was hesitant to take Medicaid clients because I have heard many horror stories from colleagues about extremely burdensome administrative requirements, clawbacks, or lengthy audits. Many therapists refuse to see Medicaid clients because of this. As a solo private practice owner, extensive administrative time and costs reduces my ability to directly serve my clients, and drastically reduces the sustainability of my business. It is vital that our most vulnerable citizens have the right and ability to receive high quality mental health care from experienced providers. Please pass this bill to reduce the onus on those of us in agencies and private practice who are working hard to serve the state's most at-risk clients. This will allow more experienced and skillful providers to be able to serve the clients who need them most, while running a sustainable business.