

Dear Joint Senate & Assembly Health Committees,

Thank you for conducting today's health committee hearing and garnering testimony regarding the NYS MIF. I am the parent of a MIF Enrollee who was enrolled in late 2015. I will not be repetitious by stating the MIF has been a complete and utter failure as it pertains to delivering on its guarantee of a lifetime of healthcare for the Enrollees. I am writing to request simply that you reject the Governor's budget proposal as it pertains to reducing reimbursement rates for MIF Enrollees.

MIF Enrollees were deprived of substantial financial recovery (because of MIF legislation) which represented the portion of their settlements & awards that cover future healthcare. In lieu of this future healthcare recovery, MIF was/is to fund all future healthcare costs for these injured victims; Yet, year after year families need to petition legislators to enact laws that prevent the state from renegeing on that guarantee.

Since the state only sees this as a budget issue and not a healthcare issue, here are some simple steps that could be taken to actually deliver on the healthcare guarantee.

- 1) Enforce the collection and payment of the Quality Care Tax the Hospitals are required to pay. They are the largest beneficiaries of MIF legislation and have evaded paying what was legally enacted. 1.6% tax on all obstetric billing... 225,000 live births annually on average in NYS, \$25,000 average cost of delivery, \$5,625,000,000. x 1.6% tax = \$90,000,000. Annually. At this point the hospitals owe payment for the last 13 years or ~\$1.2B  
Rather than cut care for enrollees, collect monies owed from offending hospitals and doctors.
- 2) Eliminate DOH staff from MIF oversight. The MIF pays \$10M to PCG as the 3<sup>rd</sup> party administrator. Let PCG do their job without needless and expensive DOH interference. The DOH staff assigned to the MIF create additional administrative costs, prolong access to care and create issues for enrollees.
- 3) Ombudsman program to assist families navigating the MIF... This alone would save time and money for all parties involved.

Thank you for your time and attention to this critical matter.

Regards,

Walter Sadowski