

March 9, 2022

The Honorable House Speaker Jason Wentworth P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Speaker Wentworth,

It has been a long distressing sleepless eight months for long term catastrophic auto crash survivors, families, and the homecare and residential caregivers they depend on for necessary care. Patient Recovery, rehabilitation, safety, health, jobs and businesses are at stake. We urge you to allow a vote on a reasonable reimbursement schedule immediately. This will address the sector of the care industry baring 45% cut in reimbursement.

The devastation and turmoil that has ensued since July 1, 2021, the day when the Michigan Legislature allowed the rates of homecare and residential caregivers to be cut by 45% of their 2019 rates. Homecare and residential caregivers have had to make the painstaking decisions to discharge their auto injury survivors. This dire situation was caused when 12 simple billing codes were inadvertently cut. If reinstated, thousands of now helpless humans can receive the lifesaving care they deserve and were promised by the state of Michigan, when they paid into the MCCA.

Since July 2<sup>nd</sup>, home health care providers have been dealing with delays, denials and other stall tactics to get paid. Three thousand people have lost their jobs and more than 21 Michigan homecare providers have closed. Members of the Michigan Homecare and Hospice Association and the patients that they serve, do not have the financial resources or the luxury of time that the insurance industry enjoys. Most have been carrying the financial burden of unpaid service because there was hope that the Michigan Legislature would act to make a fix by March First.

Home care, the low cost option to expensive hospitalization and medical costs, improves the patient's mental and physical wellbeing. The alternative, the hospital or another institution, is more expensive and taxing on a patient and its families.

When homecare and residential caregivers take on their patients, they are not numbers on a spreadsheet, they are not a collection of data points. They are like family to the agency and caregivers. Agency caregivers are also part of our family. They do the little things to care for their patients. Imagine having to tell your family member that you can no longer afford to take care of them.

Unfortunately, I just concluded a meeting with agency providers and the news is devastating. Below are the entities that have either closed, will close, are declining new patients, or will soon discharge Auto No Fault Clients. The full list is much longer and new names are being added daily.

I personally implore the Michigan Legislature to act. Please remember, they are people, our brothers and sisters, that have already been asked to bear an unbelievable burden that the rest

of us cannot begin to imagine, but could be subjected to at any moment. Please don't make their already heavy burden harder to carry.

This is a humanitarian crisis. I hate having to attach monetary values to it. But I must respectfully remind you that the money for these essential and life-saving services comes out of the MCCA – not the insurance industry's pockets. It is not state tax payers dollars or state General Revenue. This is money that you, I, and every other Michigan driver have already paid for years and years. To the current tune of 27 billion dollars. If you approve, our requested solution would cost \$227 million, which is only .0094% of the fund total.

These Michigan employees and these Michigan based businesses have done the little things to provide care, hope and dignity for these Michigan patients. I urge you to do an amazing thing by making a legislative fix now. We believe the legislature will support a fix overwhelmingly if you make the individual choice to allow that vote.

Many companies have issued discharged letters already or are turning away new patients. Similar letters and refusals are continuing from among the following Michigan home care providers.

1st Call A&D HomeCare Absolute Health Care Acclaimed discharged auto Acclaimed Home Care Advanced Home Care Advanced Home Care Advantage Plus Home Care AdvisaCare Home Health & Hospice Aegis/KCM Alevi All About You Home Care Allastor Home care closed Alomar Transpiration Ambrose Arcadia Home Care & Staffing Aspire Bayside Home care Brightstar Lansing Care Home Health Agency Care Plus TLC In Home Care CBI Centered Care Centria ComForCare Comfort Keepers (several) Community Care Givers **Compassionate Care Customized Residential Services Cypress Home Care Dobson Healthcare Services** Dobson Homecare Bay City

Eisenhower Entech Medical Staffing Family Comes First (AFC HOME) Friends Who Care From the Heart Great Lakes Home Care Health Care Associates Health Partners closed Hope Network - Coldwater **Inspire Home Care** KC Rehab Consultants Kennedy Care - Home Care Services M&M Homecare Maxim Healthcare Meadows Home Care Monarch Home Healthcare NeuroCare Home Health Newton Consulting Oakmed Home Nursing Origami Rehabilitation Paradise House in Keneenaw **Progressive Alternatives QCI** Healthcare **Reeds Home Care Reliable Transportation Reliant Home Care Revelar Home Care** Rosier Consultants S&L Transportation Serenity Home Health Care Spectrum Continuing Care. (closed) Star Rehab The Grand Home of Marshall **Transitions Reintegration Services** White House Services

Please make a legislative fix for No Fault Reform a top priority.

Sincerely,

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Barry S. Cargill, President & CEO Michigan HomeCare & Hospice Association