

April 1, 2022 Auto No-Fault Fix Reimbursement - Advocacy Action Alert

Background

Auto No-Fault reimbursement fee schedule became effective on July 2, 2021. The reform legislation slashed family attendant care and other ancillary services to no more than 56 hours per week, forcing families to rely even more heavily on home care agencies to provide needed care. Unfortunately, Agency reimbursement was cut 45%, causing reimbursement to be below the cost needed to sustain an employee to provide care. Agencies have discharged auto injured patients and closed their agency. Some agencies have continued care but with no assurance of the legislative fix necessary to restore appropriate care.

House Bill 5698 was introduced by Representative Green with 57 co-sponsors. If passed, the bill will fix the reimbursement for families and agency caregivers is ready to be introduced NOW.

What You Can Do!

Contact with your State Representative and Senator to let them know auto injured patients and home care agencies cannot wait any longer. Urge their support for House Bill 5698 NOW! The bill seeks to increase reimbursement for attendant care service to be 150% of the Veterans Administration Rate. HB5698 must be passed before more agencies go out of business and patients discharged from home care.

Find your legislator here: State Representative: www.house.mi.gov State Senator: senate.michigan.gov. **Find a copy of HB5698 here**:

 $\frac{\text{http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(nnenmmypnjplrphbjftdcvg4))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject\&objectName=2022-HB-5698.}$

Talking Points for Use with Legislators:

- Auto injury survivors were prescribed attendant and ancillary services to support their injury rehabilitation. These services are necessary for some patients to survive.
- Survivors paid premiums for auto insurance that provided certain guaranteed coverages. Because the legislature cut care reimbursement below agency cost, patients are being denied access to the care their insurance policy benefits guaranteed.
- Patients cannot wait for care. Urge your legislator to act NOW, in 2021.
- Care givers have lost their jobs since July 2, because the legislature refused to restore reasonable reimbursement for the services promised by guaranteed policy benefits.
- Companies are closing their doors because reimbursement to auto patients is too low.
- There are auto injured patients who cannot go without needed attendant and ancillary care. Patients are having to leave their homes for institutional care.
- Auto Companies are unreasonably rejecting and delaying provider claim reimbursement. Since July 2, providers have reported auto insurers refusing to accept electronic claims submissions, accepting only paper submitted claims. This practice is reported by providers and is happening across the board from seemingly all auto insurance companies.