

ATTN: Members of the Vermont House and Senate Healthcare Committees,

My name is Rori Angel and I live in Burlington. I am a member and part-time Office Administrator with the Vermont Workers' Center. I am on Medicaid and have had an overall positive experience with my coverage. Specifically, I am satisfied that my prescription co-pays are affordable, enabling me to access transgender-affirmative medications as well as prescriptions to cope with anxiety and depression. I think everyone should be able to access the medications they need and that their costs should never be an obstacle. As such, I am very concerned about recent proposals in the US Congress and in other states to drastically cut funding for Medicaid, as well as to mandate Medicaid recipients comply with work requirements. I ask that the Vermont legislature not follow this austerity-driven approach and instead ensure that Medicaid is sufficiently funded, as well as address the root causes of the healthcare crisis by completing the work of funding and implementing Act 48, Vermont's universal health care law. I believe doing so is the right decision to make if Vermonters' health and well-being is sincerely a priority for our elected representatives.

Sincerely,
Rori Angel