

## Telling Your Story:

As the Minnesota Legislature considers autism health insurance reform, it is essential that the families of children with autism inform their legislators about the needs of their children and the shortcomings of private health insurance.

**One way you can help is to simply tell your story. Below are some points that you can address if you get to talk to the legislators:**

1. Greet the legislators, and tell them that you are a parent of a child with autism.
2. Describe the needs of your child with autism; mention your child by name.
3. Tell the legislators about the services that your child receives, and what those services have done for your child and for your family.
4. Tell the legislators that you pay your premiums for private insurance and it ought to cover medically necessary care and treatment for children with autism.
5. If you have had difficulty in getting ABA/IEIBT or another type of therapy or treatment for your child, or have had to wait a very long time for that therapy, tell the legislators about your experience.
6. Tell the legislators that every child should have affordable access to medically necessary care for autism.
7. Ask the legislators to “Please Support House File 1071/Senate File 1020 for inclusion in the Governor’s budget.”
8. Ask the legislators to support choosing SEGIP to define the essential health care benefits set.
9. Ask the legislators to fight against cuts in Medical Assistance for children who have autism.

Be sure to note whether the legislator agrees to support our positions and tell your organizer what they agreed to do.

**Thank you!!**