

Anonymous Anonymous
Fryeburg
LD 2214

Anonymous
Fryeburg
MSP Expanded Eligibility Rollback

I am testifying in support for the new Medicare Savings Program expanded eligibility guidelines.

I sold the business that my husband and I owned and instead of choosing a lump sum payment, I receive \$1,000/month from the sale. That's going to end in December of this year. That money currently makes me ineligible for the MSP, so I have to pay for Medicare B premiums and full prescription co-pays myself. One of my prescriptions at full cost is as much as a car payment, which is over \$300/month. When I used to be eligible for the MSP program, I only had to pay \$10 on prescription co-pays at most but most of the time a prescription was only \$4.

I live in the boondocks for lack of a better word and I currently can't even afford a car. I have to depend on other people to take me where I need to go, including to doctors' appointments. I have to depend on my friends for transportation. I don't have any extra money to spend. If the MSP expanded income eligibility isn't funded in Gov. Mills' budget, I don't know what I'm going to do. I have another prescription that costs over \$100/month. That probably doesn't sound like much to some people but I just get so scared. I don't know what's going to happen — none of us do. Now if anything happens and I don't feel well, I don't dare to tell anybody because I don't know how I will afford it. Social Security just isn't enough to live on.

As seniors, we just don't have enough to live on. Everything is terribly expensive. The only thing I spend money on is my groceries and my prescriptions. I'm a warrior but if I really need something I have to stop and really consider if I can afford it. I'll make it because I'm determined, but it's not fair. There are some places with programs and advantages for older people, but not here.