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Dear Governor Haley,

I am a Physician Assistant with 12 years of clinical experience, curious if you have ever considered placing some limits on individual Medicaid benefits. I believe the State would save an enormous amount of money by placing even the smallest restriction on Medicaid use.

I have cared for patients in various clinical settings (ER, pediatrics, urgent care), and it seems that more often than not, Medicaid patients believe they are entitled to unlimited doctor visits. If a patient does not receive what they want (narcotics, xrays, antibiotics, etc) they will simply "doctor shop" until they either get what they want, or give up. All the while, racking up multiple bills that they are not responsible for paying. For example, a Medicaid patient gets a tooth pulled by her dentist. Dentist gives what he feels is appropriate pain medicine. Patient wants something more, so checks in at Urgent Care with dental pain. If patient does not get what she wants from Urgent Care, patient then goes to ER with dental pain. Incredible waste of money and resources, to say the least. I would love to see something in place to prevent this from happening. It would benefit the State financially, as well as the already overburdened medical community.

Thanks for taking the time to read this,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "NKLavis".

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