

SB0514 Health Facilities – Hospitals – Medical Debt Protection – Senator Feldman – Finance Committee

If there is anything tragic than a person fighting off severe illness to then be faced with paying off overwhelming bills and fees, often further subjecting them and their family to years long if not life-long stresses, then I don't know of it. Often families with low to medium resources must then declare bankruptcy. What good does this do for them? The stresses associated with the illness, trying to keep a job (or jobs), making normal household payments, whatever healthcare bills they already pay, plus these additional bills, dramatically lower quality of life for these individuals and their families.

While our health care system is still inadequate for MOST families, it is so important to try to ease the burden. The protections in this bill do not go far enough, but would help do that. We should do everything we can to make sure that low-income people are not preyed upon and that they are able to keep their jobs and remain productive in the workforce, without the threat of bankruptcy hanging over their heads. The measures in SB0514 help protect the public from some of these very things happening. Please pass SB0514.

Respectfully,

Renee Cantori
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