

My name is Judith Moskal Kanz, I have been a nurse practitioner for over 25 years and have worked within the school based health clinics for over 12 years. These clinics are imperative to the health care of the children served. Access to care for these children is of utmost importance and the school based health clinics provide that. We currently submit for Medicaid reimbursement but to submit for third party reimbursement would be impossible. In order to submit for this we would have to collect co-pays regardless of who is actually doing the billing. To collect co-pays within the school raises multiple problems including denying access to those children who do not have the money with them and multiple safety issues with them carrying the money, collecting the fee, and keeping it in these clinics. This bill could seriously impair the clinics ability to function especially if we were to then lose state funds because of this. Unless some provision is made in the bill to be able to waive co-pays this bill could cripple the school based health clinics. Thank you for your consideration of these grave concerns.

Sincerely,

Judith Moskal Kanz CPNP, APRN, MSN,