



February 12, 2026

Chairman VanOrden  
Senate Health and Welfare Committee  
Statehouse  
Boise, ID 83720

Dear Chairman VanOrden and Members of the Committee:

The Council on Developmental Disabilities serves as an independent advisor to the Governor and the Idaho Legislature on public policy issues that impact people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families through the federal Developmental Disabilities and Bill of Rights Act (Public Law 106-402).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Senate Bill 1267.

Council staff have been engaged over the years in working toward community-based employment opportunities for individuals with I/DD. In 2006, Council staff actively worked to implement the Medicaid for Workers with Disabilities program in Idaho. Medicaid for Workers with Disabilities is a path for people with disabilities between the ages 16-64 to earn higher wages while maintaining eligibility for Medicaid. It increases opportunities for many people with disabilities to become more self-reliant and to live a more self-determined life. Many people on Medicaid want to work and recognize that employment is the way to greater independence. However, once they turn 65, they lose eligibility due to the program's age cap, leaving them to face high healthcare premiums and strict asset limits that could threaten the financial stability they worked hard to build.

With over 20 states already covering workers over 64 and recent federal legislation (H.R. 7148, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2026) set to remove the age limit by 2028, Idaho has the opportunity to act sooner.

Senate Bill 1267 will allow Idaho to study and review the options to remove the upper age limit, ensuring continued support for working adults with disabilities and preserving the program's promise of independence and self-sufficiency.

We appreciate your time in reviewing the Council's comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pisani".

Christine Pisani  
Executive Director  
Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities