



September 29, 2023

The Honorable John Barrasso
United States Senate
307 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Barrasso:

We, the United Council on Welfare Fraud (UCOWF), have read a copy of the Protecting Medicaid Beneficiaries Act of 2023 and felt compelled to write this letter of support. Seldom do we see a piece of proposed legislation that will have such a positive and dramatic impact on the integrity of our nation's welfare programs. The success of Asset Verification Systems (AVS) in identifying undisclosed bank accounts in the Aged, Blind and Disabled Medicaid programs is astonishing, and it is simple common sense that such a powerful tool be used in all medical assistance programs.

We appreciate acknowledgement that using AVS does not determine eligibility but that it is a tool that helps states verify information provided, or omitted, by an applicant. AVS will help states fulfill their commitments to taxpayers by insuring costly public assistance benefits are only issued to those who are eligible.

Thank you again for helping our investigators by introducing Senate Bill 2954 which will provide a powerful tool in our fight against improper payments and welfare fraud.

Sincerely,

/s/

Carrol Christian, President
United Council on Welfare Fraud