Timothy F. Hoste
Manager, Building Services/Safety – Unique Options, LLC

October 4, 2011

The Honorable State Representative Peter Lund, Committee Chair
Michigan House of Representatives Insurance Committee
374 Capitol Building
Lansing, MI 48909

RE: Opposition to House Bill 4936

Chairman Lund and Members of the House Insurance Committee:

I want to start out by thanking you for the opportunity to testify in opposition of House Bill 4936. A traumatic brain injury resulting from an automobile accident can happen to anyone at anytime. From a 55 year old business man driving down I-96 getting hit by a truck to a six year old girl playing in her front yard when a car hops the curb, all it takes is a second to have your life altered forever.

The level of care and rehabilitation someone receives shouldn't be limited to a "lifetime cap" that was sold to them because it was all they could afford, or because they truly didn't understand how severely underinsured they would be. Until I started working with individuals that have sustained a traumatic brain injury because of an automobile accident, I didn't have much understanding of what is involved with someone who has been catastrophically injured as they try to recover to their maximum medical potential. Now that I have seen it first hand, I know what I want for myself, my family and all residents of Michigan, and a lifetime cap will not make this possible.

Please consider the following before voting on a bill that will be devastating to the State of Michigan and its residents.

- If Auto No-Fault is changed, an estimated 765 Michigan residents will have insufficient coverage for medical expenses after the first year alone. An estimated 15,300 after 20 years. Can the State of Michigan afford these numbers on Medicaid?
- Currently the legislature in Florida is aggressively investigating what they need to do to adopt the style of auto no-fault insurance Michigan has because their current system doesn't work, and had lead to uncontrollable run away cost to the states Medicaid program. If the program doesn't work in Florida, we do we want to go to system like it?
- Section 1245 of House Bill 4936 states that An insurance producer and an agency and their authorized representatives and employees involved in the sale or purchase of personal protection insurance benefits under section 3107 are not liable for damages arising from the loss or **inadequacy or of personal protection insurance benefits.** The fact that the House Bill admits the inadequacy of personal protection insurance benefits does not instill a good feeling about the insurance options Michigan residents will have if auto no-fault insurance gets changed.

Is auto no-fault insurance perfect, no. Can it use some adjustments and checkpoints put in place to ensure the system is sustainable, yes. But gutting everything about auto-no-fault is not the answer. Lifetime medical benefits for all reasonable and necessary care are an absolute must for those individuals who are involved in a catastrophic accident.

If you truly want to make sure Michigan residents have a "choice" when it comes to auto no-fault insurance, please put it to public vote. If a public vote is not an option, than I ask that you vote for what is best for you, your family, and residents of Michigan.