

Written TESTIMONY OF Jean Hauff

Minnetonka, Minnesota

Chair Pelowski and members:

My name is Jean Hauff. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of House File 687.

I want to share with you my college goals and experience. My goal is to go to college just like my siblings. I am interested in a career in communications or social media. I want to learn more about graphic design and technology. I looking for a four-year college with on-campus housing and a four-year certificate.

My first choice is to go to college in Minnesota and close to home. Today, there are no Minnesota colleges that admit students with an intellectual disability and offer a four-year certificate. I am ready to go to college now. Why do I have to wait?

I have some college experience. I took college classes in high school. I have applied to out-of-state colleges. I was accepted at a Pennsylvania university. It was fun to live on campus. I liked making my own decisions and the freedom. Taking classes with my peers gave me confidence and made me happy. I completed two years of college, but then the university stopped taking out-of-state students. I want to finish my college certificate. Earning a post-secondary credential will help me with my career goals. I want to live and work in Minnesota.

I want to continue my college education in Minnesota. The Minnesota Inclusive Higher Education Act will expand Minnesota college choices for students with an intellectual disability. I ask that you support House File 687. Thank you.