



Guiding youth down the road to living independently.

Dear Chair Schultz and Committee Members,

I'm writing to you in support of HF3815. C2i serves youth in and aging out of foster care ages 14 until their 25th birthday. Most of the youth C2i works with age out with little to no connection to supportive adults or a permanent family connection. Many youth we serve do not have the skills needed to live on their own at the age of 18 or 21. We hope that this bill could provide more robust training for youth, parents, and foster caregivers.

Foster parents and kinship caregivers play a vital role in caring for and impacting the development of children who are unable to remain at home. It is critical to bridge the gap between birth families and foster caregivers. Quality Parenting Initiative-MN is a movement to improve foster care by centering youth voices and their experiences, and places foster parents and birth parents in the center.

QPI-MN launched in 2017 with support from a wide variety of stakeholders and continues to grow as new counties and community-based organizations integrate the best practices for quality parenting that surrounds and supports children and youth in care. QPI-MN is an essential partner in the work C2i does in our communities. HF3815 is a critical investment in ensuring QPI-MN's sustainability and the continuance of their important work to provide technical assistance and assure best practice standards are met.

Please support HF3815 to sustain and grow the QPI-MN movement.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

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