

March 22, 2025

Rep. Mohamud Noor, Co-Chair
House Human Services Policy and Finance Committee
5th Floor Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Rep. Joe Schomacker, Co-Chair
House Human Services Policy and Finance Committee
2nd Floor Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support for House File 2004

Dear Chair Noor, Chair Schomacker and Members of the Human Services Policy and Finance Committee:

ARRM is a statewide trade association of over 200 provider organizations, businesses, and advocates dedicated to leading in the advancement of Home and Community-Based services that support both adults and children with disabilities. On behalf of our members, we want to take this opportunity to offer our support for House File 2004.

Including Individualized Home Support without Training (IHS) and Night Supervision in the definition of direct care staff services recognizes the diverse needs of individuals who are temporarily traveling out of state or pursuing post-secondary education out of state. This provision will ensure that individuals can maintain their necessary support system, which is critical for health, safety, and overall well-being, regardless of location.

In addition to being able to support individuals in temporary travel out of state for vacations, for many of our members who support individuals in border communities, the restriction on providing services outside of Minnesota has created undue barriers in accessing communities that may be just minutes away.

House File 2004 aligns with Minnesota's commitment to provide equal opportunities for everyone, reinforcing that just because someone has a disability, they should not be limited in where they can travel and learn.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support for this proposal.

Sincerely,

Sara Grafstrom
Senior Director of State and Federal Policy, ARRM



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A Life Like Yours

Removing Barriers to Temporary Out-of-State Travel for Minnesotans with Disabilities

People with disabilities, like most individuals living in Minnesota, have opportunities and responsibilities that require them to temporarily travel outside the state of Minnesota. However, many Minnesotans with disabilities face unnecessary barriers and restrictions when temporarily traveling out-of-state because they cannot access vital direct care assistance. **This is due to an incomplete list of “Direct Care Staff” services covered in Minnesota’s federal waiver plans.**

HF 2004 would:

- Address an oversight by adding **Individualized Home Supports (IHS) without Training** and **Night Supervision Services** to the current list of “Direct Care Staff” services.
- Remove barriers to temporary out-of-state travel and out-of-state postsecondary school attendance for Minnesotans with disabilities.
- Ensure Minnesotans with disabilities can access the services they are already authorized to receive when they temporarily travel out of Minnesota.

Services included in HF 2004: IHS without Training and Night Supervision Services

DHS defines “Direct Care Staff” Services as including assistance with activities of daily living.

IHS without Training is defined as services that provide support in the Community Living Service categories which includes **assistance with activities of daily living**.

Night Supervision is defined as overnight assistance and supervision when the person has an assessed need in one of the covered service areas which includes **assistance with activities of daily living**.

HF 2004 (Curran) / SF 1810 (Rasmusson) ensures Minnesotans with disabilities can maintain their independence and participate fully in life, whether at home or traveling temporarily out-of-state.





March 21, 2025

The Honorable Mohamud Noor
Co-Chair, Human Services Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
5th Floor, Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Joe Schomacker
Co-Chair, Human Services Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
2nd Floor, Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Legal Aid/Minnesota Disability Law Center Letter Regarding HF 2004

Dear Co-Chair Noor, Co-Chair Schomacker, and Members of the Committee:

Legal Aid and the Minnesota Disability Law Center (MDLC) thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony regarding HF 2004. We support this bill.

When people with disabilities who already receive services need to travel outside Minnesota for work, vacation, or post-secondary school, Minnesota's Home and Community-Based Waivers allow individuals to use direct care assistance service including personal care assistance services, extended home care nursing, and consumer-directed community supports. These services are needed for activities such as toileting, eating, and other care necessary to ensure the person's health and safety. Unfortunately, two important direct care services, individualized home supports without training and night supervision, are missing from the definition of "direct care assistance services" in the disability waiver plans. As a result, people who rely on these specific services have to forgo travel or post-secondary educational opportunities. Other times, people need to find alternative care which is funded out of pocket or cobbled together with family and friends who may not be qualified, potentially leading to unsafe situations.

HF 2004 would correct this unnecessary oversight and allow Minnesotans with disabilities to use the direct care services they are authorized to receive when temporarily traveling out of state. All Minnesotans deserve to be able to participate in the full range of employment, go to their post-secondary schools of choice, and travel. We urge you to support this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on HF 2004.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Purrington'.

Jennifer Purrington
Legal Director/Deputy Director
Minnesota Disability Law Center

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ellen Smart'.

Ellen Smart
Staff Attorney
Legal Services Advocacy Project

This document has been formatted for accessibility. Please call Ellen Smart at 612/746-3761 if you need this document in an alternative format.