



Minnesota Coalition
FOR FAMILY HOME VISITING

March 13, 2023

Representative Dave Pinto
Chair, Children and Families Finance and Policy Committee
120 MN State Capitol
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Pinto and Members of the Committee:

Minnesota's Coalition for Family Home Visiting (MCFHV) writes in support of HF 2478, to fund Way to Grow, an evidence-based and informed home visiting program. Way to Grow offers free, year-round family support and educational programming for families with children prenatal through third grade. The MCFHV is excited to see significant support for the healthy growth and development of Minnesota's youngest children and supports this investment in their education and future. We believe supporting a broad coalition of evidence-based programs and models will increase our ability to meet the unique needs of families across all stages of their child's development.

Way to Grow provides culturally and linguistically appropriate education during all three trimesters of pregnancy and well into childhood. Way to Grow partners with many community organizations to connect families with accessible and affordable healthcare so their children grow up with the immunizations and well-child checkups needed to be healthy and ready for school. Home visitors provide a space for parents to ask questions and receive family wellness education and personalized support to promote nutrition, safe sleep practices, home safety and healthy family habits.

Way to Grow uses the Parents as Teachers home visiting model to support the growth and education of young children, through third grade. Research shows that third grade reading levels are indicative of whether a student will graduate high school, in supporting early literacy and healthy development, Way to Grow is positively positioning children for long-term success.

The Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting urges you to support HF 2478 to address health and academic disparities in Minnesota to ensure every child has an equal opportunity to succeed in school and life.

Thank you,

Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn,
Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting
Projects Coordinator

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Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting
Policy Associate