



Minnesota Disability Law Center

Legal Services Advocacy Project

February 24, 2022

Representative Jamie Becker-Finn, Chair  
Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Comm.  
Minnesota House of Representatives  
559 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Kelly Moller, Vice Chair  
Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Comm.  
Minnesota House of Representatives  
569 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Peggy Scott, Republican Lead  
Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Comm.  
Minnesota House of Representatives  
335 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: H.F. 2458

Dear Chair Becker-Finn, Vice Chair Moller, and Lead Scott:

The Minnesota Disability Law Center (MDLC) and the Legal Services Advocacy Project (LSAP) are statewide projects of Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid. MDLC serves as the Protection and Advocacy (P&A) organization for Minnesota, and, along with every other state and territory, is the largest network of legally based advocacy services for people with disabilities in the United States. MDLC provides free legal services to children and adults with disabilities. LSAP is the advocacy arm of Legal Aid and has provided legislative and administrative advocacy on behalf of Legal Aid's clients and all low-income Minnesotans since 1977.

We write in support of H.F. 2458, which would strengthen the rights of parents who are blind in several important parenting contexts. The right to parent is an important civil right and parents who are blind should not be discriminated against based on their disability, but rather provided any necessary supportive parenting services. Full inclusion will mean that Minnesotans who have disabilities are part of every facet of society, including parents.

We urge the committee's support of H.F. 2458 and are grateful to Representative Gomez and all the co-authors for their leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Maren Hulden  
Staff Attorney  
Legal Aid