

Minnesota House of Representatives

Human Services Finance & Policy Committee

Chairs: Rep. Noor & Rep. Schomacker

March 10, 2026

Re: HF 3780 CFSS

Dear Mr. Chair and Members, many thanks for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Idil Abdull, I have a 23-year-old son with autism who was diagnosed with profound autism when he was 3½ years old. I am also trying to retire autism policy advocate.

As you know, the idea and intentions were good for community first services and supports. It replaced CSG and PCA services. The goal was to make it more person-centered for the recipient and the family. However, the rollout was nothing short of a disaster for both families, counties, and providers. There are no clear guidelines between the agency and budget model. There are no timeframes for how long the consultation specialist finishes the plan and so much more.

The state Medicaid agency as usual has not done a good job in offering training for both families and providers. Most if not all counties are confused on what is allowed and what is not allowed especially for individuals with developmental disabilities such as autism. The state Medicaid agency's website mentions couple of things such as grab bars and device to support someone with dressing which are both for people with physical disabilities.

While I appreciate Rep. Hicks current language on this bill about shared services when it is more than one person getting the services, this is not the case for people who have more profound needs. I do not think it goes far enough. The CFSS needs a complete overhaul that addresses the needs of people with autism and other disabilities.

I also ask legislators to task the state Medicaid agency to train counties, families, and providers to ensure everyone is doing what they are supposed to do.

Sincerely,

Idil Abdull – Autism Mom & Retired Advocate