

An association of resources and advocacy for children, youth and families www.aspiremn.org

May 2, 2023

Dear Commerce Conference Committee Members,

Thank you for including coverage for Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) services for children in Minnesota in language in your Article 2 Insurance provisions. PRTF services were established in Minnesota in 2018 to serve children with highly complex mental health needs. Unfortunately, PRTF care has not been available to children with commercial insurance coverage due to an unwillingness to contract for PRTF services. Language included in your House and Senate positions to include PRTF coverage in mandated commercial plans we believe will make a significant difference for children who can newly access PRTF care, and, for continued growth of greatly needed PRTF services in Minnesota.

AspireMN supports the Mental Health Legislative Network proposals to fund the mental health parity office. We also urge the adoption of the provision to allow families who have lost a loved one to suicide to access life insurance policy benefits if the policy is in place for one year instead of two.

Your leadership on these critical issues is most appreciated.

Warm regards,

Kirsten Anderson Executive Director

AspireMN improves the lives of children, youth and families served by member organizations through support for quality service delivery, leadership development and policy advocacy.