



February 20, 2021

Honorable Mark Koran
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3101
St. Paul, MN 55155

Honorable Dave Baker
387 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: SF 254/HF 471 alternative SUD licensing inspections established

Dear Senator Koran and Representative Baker,

I write to support the bill SF 254/HF 471 to establish alternative substance use disorder licensing inspections. NUWAY® is a co-occurring substance use disorder treatment provider who in 2019 was accredited by The Joint Commission (TJC).

NUWAY pursued this accreditation because TJC is seen as the gold standard in the health care industry. By achieving accreditation, we are pursuing a commitment to excellence and validating our commitment to quality client care. NUWAY is working to best serve our patients through evidence-based treatment modalities and high-quality care beyond the minimum standards required in state licensure.

This accreditation insured we are focused and accountable to strengthen client and community confidence in the quality and safety of patients in our care. Amplifies our staff education, development, and retention efforts. Beyond the patient level care, it also requires our organization to be attentive to healthy business operations, organizational structure, and sound management practices through a framework offered by the TJC.

The TJC requires an annual customized intensive review of those they accredit. It requires the organization follow all state licensure requirements and they will incorporate any licensing requirements the state would like to see tested into their review process.

For these reasons we fully support enactment of SF 254/HF 471.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Monique Bourgeois".

Monique Bourgeois, MPNA, LADC
Chief Community Relations Officer