



Representative Peter Fischer, Chair
Behavioral Health Subdivision
MN House of Representatives
March 7, 2022

Chair Fischer and Members of the Committee

On behalf of Washburn Center for Children, I am writing to express strong support for **House File 3738 – modifying Children’s Therapeutic Services and Supports.**

Modifying Children’s Therapeutic Services and Supports to expand covered service components is vital to improve access to quality children’s mental health care across Minnesota.

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) and Children's Hospital Association declared a national emergency in children's mental health in 2021, and this bill is an opportunity to respond to that emergency by modifying children's therapeutic services and supports.

As one of the first Community Mental Health Centers in Minnesota certified in Children’s Therapeutic Services and Supports, Washburn Center for Children has seen how vital CTSS is to improving access to quality mental health care for children, adolescents and families across Minnesota.

Please support this bill to modify Children’s Therapeutic Services and Supports to expand covered service components. Washburn Center for Children urgently asks the Committee to support these beneficial changes to Children’s Therapeutic Services and Supports by passing House File 3738.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom S.", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Tom Steinmetz, CEO

