



February 16, 2021

SUBJECT: HF 668 - INCLUSIVE CHILDCARE

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

The Multicultural Autism Action Network is writing to express support for House File 668 on inclusive childcare.

Including children with disabilities is incredibly important, as this sets the foundation for a future of inclusion. Including children with disabilities normalizes disability from an early age and helps avoid the process of being “othered” that so many children with disabilities experience throughout their lives.

Inclusive child care is beneficial not only for the child, but also for the family. We know from personal experience how access to inclusive child care is important for caregivers, which, as we know, is a responsibility that falls largely on women. The inability to find inclusive child care has long lasting effects on career paths not only for the individual but also economic benefit to the state.

Including children with disabilities also has a tremendous impact on non-disabled children in the environment, as disability becomes part of their everyday experience.

Providing inclusive child care is essential to us and to our families, and HF 668 provides an important first step. We urge you to support House File 668.

With sincere thanks,

Multicultural Autism Action Network

Fatima Molas
Delia Samuel
Abyan Ali
Rufo Jiru
Maren Christenson Hofer