



RE: [HF 4398 \(Liebling\)](#)  
ATTN: Minnesota House Health Finance and Policy Committee  
DATE: March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Honorable Chair Liebling and Members of the Committee,

The Minnesota Council on Disability would like to express our support for the following provisions in HF 4398:

**Sec 24** Law-Enforcement-Involved in Deadly Force Encounter Community Advisory Committee

Many Minnesotans with disabilities often have negative, sometimes deadly, interactions with law enforcement, often due to the lack of training or understanding on how to interact with people with disabilities. This committee would investigate the causes and provide recommendations to improve interactions between law enforcement and people with disabilities, as well as other marginalized communities.

**Sec 34** Long COVID; Supporting Survivors and Monitoring Impact

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a mass-disabling event with lifelong health and disability consequences. It is imperative that Minnesota support its residents who are dealing with Long COVID issues and monitor the lasting impact that this pandemic has had on our state.

**Sec 42** AIDS Prevention Grants

AIDS is a chronic, lifelong disability that is preventable through education and intervention programs.

**Sec 47** Reducing Health Disparities among people with disabilities

Many Minnesotans with disabilities have complex health care needs but often face barriers to receiving adequate health care due to health care costs, lack of coverage, discrimination, and more. Addressing these issues through data collections and tracking will help close the disparity gap in health for people with disabilities.

**Sec 57** Mental Health Cultural Community Continuing Education Grant Program

Many Minnesotans have significantly impacting mental health conditions that are best treated by members of their own community. However, many communities, especially marginalized communities, lack enough mental healthcare providers to address the need due to barriers such as the educational and licensing costs. This program would provide those with opportunities to further culturally appropriate and effective education and training so that they can go back to and serve their own communities.

MCD urges the committee to support these provisions and support Minnesotans with disabilities.

Sincerely,  
Trevor Turner, Public Policy Director