

Nick Stumo-Langer

From: Maren Olson <olso1421@umn.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 8:23 AM
To: Peter Fischer; Luke Frederick; Debra Kiel; Jeff Backer; Dave Baker; Brion Curran; Heather Edelson; Elliott Engen; Leigh Finke; Jessica Hanson; Kim Hicks; Mohamud Noor; Paul Novotny; Nick Stumo-Langer
Subject: Support for HF1436

Dear Representative Fischer and members of the Human Services Policy Committee,

I am a practicing pediatrician and an educator who works with pediatricians and family physicians-in training, as well as medical students and physician assistant and nurse practitioner students. I am writing this e-mail in enthusiastic support of HF 1436 and the programs and funding outlined in the bill which would invest in training and support for mental health professionals, particularly those caring for children, in the state of Minnesota. The provisions in this bill which would improve pediatric mental health training would be extremely beneficial to the training of all pediatric primary care providers in the state of Minnesota.

As a pediatric hospitalist I see patients with mental health concerns everyday. Mental health concerns are on the rise. Our pediatric hospitals have been overwhelmed with kids needing urgent mental health care--many of whom might have avoided hospitalization if their primary care providers had more training and experience in managing mental health issues. I know that if the people providing primary care pediatric care throughout Minnesota had improved training in mental health care, we would be able to get these patients the care they needed sooner and more effectively.

I hope you'll vote yes on HF1436. It's a tremendously important investment in the health and wellbeing of young people in the state of Minnesota.

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