



March 20, 2023

House Health Finance & Policy Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives

SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR HF2930

Dear Chair Liebling and Committee Members,

We are writing to express strong support for the Disability Health Equity budget provisions of HF 2930.

Our organization, the Multicultural Autism Action Network, serves families of children with disabilities in multicultural communities. Our work brings us in daily contact with families that are struggling to navigate services and systems to support their children. We see the many ways in which these systems prioritize families who speak English as their first language, families who are familiar with how to fill out paperwork, families who have the social capital to learn from other families how to navigate these systems.

In our work we often say that any system that relies on social capital for access is by its very nature discriminatory. But it is often difficult to quantify what we see and hear anecdotally every day. Funding for the Disability Health Equity budget will help us collect data on how well we are serving people with disabilities and their families in diverse communities.

We fully support this provision of the budget and look forward to partnering with the Department of Health and other agencies to ensure the needs of ALL children with disabilities are met.

Sincerely,
Multicultural Autism Action Network
Maren Christenson
Executive Director