



Dear Chair Schultz and Members of the Human Services Finance and Policy Committee,

The Minnesota Consortium for Citizen's with Disabilities (MNCCD) would like to express our support of HF 2925, removing barriers to choosing your own home, and we wish to thank Representative Moller for authoring this important legislation. MNCCD is a broad-based coalition of advocacy and provider organizations and individuals working to change public policy to improve the lives of people with disabilities through building awareness, providing education, and engaging in the community.

One of MNCCD's policy principles is individual empowerment and choice, along with promoting an accessible, safe, and inclusive society. It is so important that we support people to choose to live in their own homes and communities, as where to live is one of the most important decisions a person makes in their life. We have made much progress in our state, including your work adopting the informed choice policy statements and dedicating federal home and community-based services dollars to support transitions to people living in their own homes. Thank you for your commitment to supporting people to live in their own homes!

Unfortunately, the dire workforce crisis is making it harder for people to live in their own homes. People are struggling to find staff, and if they can find staff, they still face challenges when staff unexpectedly cannot come, for health, child care or other reasons. People who have long lived in their own homes are moving to less independent settings simply to find the support they need.

HF 2925 would address this by expanding access to sharing services when people live in their own homes, supporting case managers to help people put plans in place for when support providers change last minute, and address an inequity in the statute to ensure that people who live in their own homes have comparable appeal rights to people who live in residential settings.

Continuing to find ways to support people to live in their own homes amidst this workforce crisis is essential to ensuring our state's commitment to full inclusion and integration for people who have disabilities across our state.

Thank you for your support of HF 2925.

Sincerely,

Melissa Haley  
Public Policy Co-Chair

Maren Hulden  
Public Policy Co-Chair