



April 6, 2021

To: Chair Schultz and Members of the House Human Services Finance and Policy Committee
RE: House File 2127, DE 1

Dear Chair Schultz and Committee Members,

We write on behalf of the Minnesota Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (MNCCD), a broad coalition of over 30 advocacy and provider organizations, as well as individuals who have disabilities and their allies, working to change disability policy, raise awareness, and engage community. We write to share our views on this significant Human Services Finance and Policy Omnibus bill.

Thank you for your leadership on this bill. We are supportive of investments that sustain a service system that is inclusive, accessible and equitable, while promoting empowerment and choice of all Minnesotans who have disabilities.

We thank you and the committee for including several of MNCCD's policy priorities, including:

- PCA Rate Framework (190.7-195.18)
- Extension of temporary PCA payment for parents and spouses (201.6-201.19)
- Ratification of Healthcare Workers Collective Bargaining Agreement (201.20-201.23)

You have long been a champion for making the necessary changes to the PCA rate framework and investments to the direct support workforce to support people who have disabilities to live and thrive in the community. We especially appreciate your unwavering commitment to these critical supports and services.

As you continue budget negotiations we hope you will consider including policy priorities that we believe will advance equity, empowerment, and choice for people who have disabilities:

- Informed Choice and Informed Decisionmaking in disability services (HF 1347)
- Restoring Community Access to the PCA Program (HF 1431)

Thank you so much for all you do on behalf of Minnesotans and your leadership on this bill. We appreciate this opportunity to share feedback.

Maren Hulden and Melissa Haley
MNCCD Policy Committee Co-Chairs