

COALITION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

February 1, 2023

Education Policy Committee
Minnesota Senate
95 University Ave. W.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Chair Cwodzinski and Members of the Education Policy Committee,

We are writing to express support to Senate File 502, Senator Westlin's bill for paid training for paraprofessionals.

Funding for paraprofessionals to receive paid orientation and professional development will enable paraprofessionals to better support the individual needs of students with disabilities. Providing opportunities for paraprofessionals to receive training and meet with students' teachers will be beneficial to both students and professionals. We are thankful to Senator Westlin for championing this critical work and urge you to support this legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our support to Senate File 502. Please contact Natalia Madryga at nmadryga@hyldenlaw.com or 952-693-1329 with any questions.

Coalition for Children with Disabilities

Autism Society of Minnesota • The Arc Minnesota • Decoding Dyslexia Minnesota
Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota • Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid/Minnesota Disability Law Center
Minnesota Brain Injury Alliance • Minnesota Council on Disability
Multicultural Autism Action Network • PACER Center
Prader-Willi Syndrome Association of Minnesota • Proof Alliance