

COALITION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

January 19, 2023

Education Finance Committee Minnesota Senate
1100 Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Ave. W.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Chair Kunesh and Members of the Education Finance Committee,

We are writing to express support to Senate File 28, Senator Westlin's bill to increase funding for special education services.

Students with disabilities across our state benefit from special education in order to have the supports they need to participate in school along with their peers. Providing adequate and equitable special education funding is essential to ensure that all students—including students who have disabilities—have access to robust and inclusive school programming that supports their overall learning and development. We strongly suggest this sustained increased funding for the special education cross subsidy be tied to improved outcomes for children with disabilities.

We are grateful to Senator Westlin for taking up this important issue and urge you to advance this important bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our support to Senate File 28. 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