



Minnesota Coalition
FOR FAMILY HOME VISITING

March 22, 2023

Senator Melissa Wiklund
Chair, Health and Human Services Committee
Room 1100, Minnesota Senate Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Wiklund and Members of the Committee:

Minnesota's Coalition for Family Home Visiting (MCFHV) writes in support of SF 2966, to fund key programs in the Minnesota Department of Human Services that support Minnesota's families. We believe that investing in family and early care and learning workforce will help provide stability for families. By improving recruitment, education and retention to equitably support those providing critical support to Minnesota's families will positively position children and their parents for a lifetime of success.

Please consider the importance of following programs and provisions and support SF 2966:

Direct Reimbursement for Doula Services [148.995] Article 8. Sec. 13. Subd. 28b. Line 150.14
Doulas are proven to lower racial disparities in healthcare by improving health outcomes, increasing breastfeeding rates, reducing childbirth complications, and reestablishing the relationship between historically marginalized communities and the medical establishment. As advocates and birthing educators, doulas should have the ability to bill directly for their services. By allowing doulas to be directly reimbursed for their services, they will be able to overcome the many barriers that come with the supervisor requirement.

Child Care Article 1. Beginning on Line 2.22
Investing in early care and learning is integral to increase access to high-quality early childhood programs for Minnesota's youngest children and stabilize families in these early years. By bridging the funding gaps for low-income families to receive quality care and learning will improve school readiness in populations with the highest needs.

Thank you,

Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn,
Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting
Coordinator

Cati Gómez,
Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting
Policy Associate