



Jay G Lindgren
7837 Edgebrook Dr
St Louis Park, MN 55426

March 16, 2023

Dear Chairman Latz and other members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing in support of SF 1549 (Champion). I spent 50 years working in youth corrections in Minnesota, Texas and Rhode Island. During this half century research has taught us a great deal about what works to prevent and to successfully intervene with youth crime. This bill promotes principles critical to improved outcomes. It recognizes that effective prevention and intervention require a comprehensive approach tailored to the the unique community (including tribes), culture, gender and individual choices and life experiences (including any traumas suffered) for each youth. It also acknowledges the obvious but often overlooked fact in delinquency services that positive youth development requires not only remedial services such as behavioral health care but also unfettered access to meaningful education and career development opportunities. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, the bill appreciates that all youth have strengths, a need to heal and belong and to be held accountable through restorative practices. These are proven approaches. Please act wisely pass this bill!

Sincerely,

Jay Lindgren