Open Letter Regarding Prone Restraint and Breath-Impacting Holds on Children in Schools

February 14, 2024

Dear Governor Walz, Lt. Governor Flanagan, Speaker Hortman, Majority Leader Murphy, and Members of the Minnesota Legislature:

Today we join with colleagues, parents, youth, and educators in the Solutions Not Suspensions Coalition to express grave concerns about repealing the ban on prone holds and breath-impacting restraints on children in Minnesota schools. We need these prohibitions for school resource officers and school security personnel to remain in statute.

Following George Floyd's murder, our state leaders and the undersigned organizations made commitments to identify and change policies and practices that disproportionately harm people of color.

While some school districts in the state support the use of SROs in their buildings, and their aim is to mend relationships with law enforcement and pass new legislation around model policies and training – reversing the ban on prone holds and dangerous restraints will perpetuate the disparities we have all pledged to end.

Thank you for your consideration.

The Arc Minnesota

LEGAL RIGHTS CENTER — A LAW FIRM OF AND FOR THE PEOPLE

TAKE ACTION MN

youthprise

GLOBAL TEEN ACTIVISTS

ausm autism society of minnesota

MULTICULTURAL AUTISM ACTION NETWORK

MAAN

Minnesota Education Equity Partnership

MID-MINNESOTA LEGAL AID

Minnesota Disability Law Center

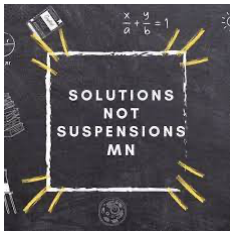
VOICES FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

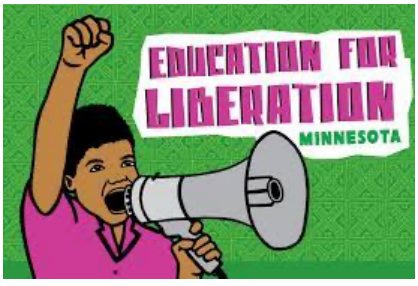
ORGANIZING | ADVOCACY | POLICY

EdAllies

RJN RACIAL JUSTICE NETWORK

NPU NATIONAL PARENTS UNION





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Autism Society of Minnesota
ACCRA
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Anita Smithson
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Minnesota Wrongfully Convicted Judicial Reform
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