



Senator Melissa Wiklund, Chair  
Senate Health and Human Services Committee  
March 14, 2024

Mister Chair and Members of the Committee

Founded In 1976, Mental Health Resources (MHR) Is a non-profit 501(c)(3) mental health agency providing community-based mental health services, outpatient co-occurring substance use disorder treatment, and supportive services to more than 11,500 people with serious and persistent mental illness each year primarily In Ramsey, Dakota, and Hennepin Counties.

MHR provides a spectrum of mental health and substance use disorder services to our communities as a “one stop shop,” including assertive community treatment (ACT) services. We have been providing these critical services to residents of Ramsey, Dakota, and Hennepin Counties for nearly 20 years. Averaging 250 people served annually.

In this current workforce crisis and (state and national) mental health crisis, MHR is further challenged in keeping access available to ACT services for our communities, spending staff time/energy away from care while trying to comply with prescriptive and sometimes conflicting regulations governing ACT.

This legislation proposes changes many ACT providers and partners within the Mental Health Legislative Network hope will help us sustain access to our existing ACT programs across Minnesota for clients.

Acknowledging the good work you and the legislature started last year to update our ACT program in Minnesota, MHR looks forward to continue working with you, the Department and our other community partners in keeping our ACT program in Minnesota accessible our communities we are serving.

We are hopeful this bill, SF 3552, is the next step in that good work we can do with you all in the legislature to build a mental health regulatory system - overseeing ACT and other services - that can flex/ respond with the changing needs of our industry, and our communities.

Thank you for your leadership and support.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "AH", is positioned above the printed name.

Ann Henderson, MSW, LICSW  
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