



Dear Committee,

The Autism Society supports the Governors Policy bill provision to guarantee minimum wage for people with disabilities. As you know, AuSM has been committed to this work since the beginning and has been integrally involved with the task force and legislative work creating historic investments towards preparing providers to make the transition.

We know that this change comes with many emotions and a universe of new things. But we also trust in the work that the task force has done to help the legislature prepare our state for a fruitful outcome for all people with disabilities. Minnesota has always been a pillar in greatness for the disability community, being years ahead in special ed provisions, in service options, and in human rights and equitable living. This is the next stage of that.

Just as there was uncertainty and controversy when Minnesota committed to closing institutions, Minnesota demonstrated the high level of community standards to ensure our community was successful. People with disabilities now thrive in our community and contribute to the greatness of this state.

We have prepared with the same commitment to excellence to leave behind the antiquated practice of sub-minimum wage. Through the greatness of our community and our legislatures. We are prepared for this step. Please support Guaranteeing Minimum Wage for People with Disabilities through a sunset date for section 14C.

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