



## COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

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Honorable Chair Senator John Hoffman  
Senate Human Services Committee  
RE: Section 20 of SF 4399 – Senator Hoffman  
March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Chair Hoffman and members of the Senate Human Services Committee,

**The MN Council on Disability would like to express our unequivocal support for section 20 of SF 4399** as introduced, which establishes a sunset date for and prohibits subminimum wages for people with disabilities in Minnesota.

Section 20 of SF 4399 proposes setting a sunset date of August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2028 for the practice of paying subminimum wages to workers with disabilities. This practice, deeply rooted in outdated perceptions of disability, undervalues the contributions of workers with disabilities and perpetuates economic disparities. By establishing a clear timeline for the end of subminimum wages, Section 20 of SF 4399 paves the way for a more inclusive and equitable workforce, one that recognizes the abilities and potential of every individual.

The passage of this provision is not only a matter of economic justice but also a testament to our shared values of dignity, respect, and equality. It acknowledges that the strength of our workforce lies in its diversity and that the full and equitable participation of Minnesotans with disabilities enriches our state and our economy.

Transitioning away from subminimum wages aligns with broader efforts to ensure that all Minnesotans, regardless of ability, have access to fair employment opportunities and the means to lead as integrated and independent lives as possible. It encourages businesses and organizations to adopt more inclusive practices and to recognize the value of a diverse workforce.

We strongly urge your support for section 20 of SF 4399. By championing this legislation, we can take a significant step towards a more inclusive Minnesota, where every citizen is valued and afforded equal opportunities to contribute to our society and economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Trevor Turner'.

Trevor Turner  
Public Policy Director  
[trevor.turner@state.mn.us](mailto:trevor.turner@state.mn.us)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David Dively'.

David Dively  
Executive Director  
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