



February 19, 2025

Re: SF507, Requiring language and disability supports so families may access the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process

Dear Chair Cwodzinski and Members of the Senate Education Policy Committee,

EdAllies supports removing barriers for families to actively participate in their children's education. SF507 not only removes language barriers but requires the implementation of supports so that regardless of language needs, families can be in the driver's seat in decision making around the accommodations and direction of their child's education.

Additionally SF507 ensures that adults with disabilities are appropriately accommodated so they can meaningfully participate in their child's IEP process.

The fundamental promise of the IEP is a partnership between the family, the student, the school, that rests on the foundation set by the civil rights protections afforded to children and their families by the federal IDEA Act.

Families want their children to succeed in school, families want to be a resource and support to educators and families want to be good faith partners to schools in order to achieve these outcomes. However, systemic barriers often disrupt that partnership – SF507 specifically addresses several of them.

We applaud Senator Mann for her consistent leadership to ensure that families and students have a seat at the decisionmaking table and to put the supports in place so they have the ability to advocate for what they need and deserve from school.

Sincerely,  
Matt Shaver  
Senior Policy Director  
[mshaver@edalliesmn.org](mailto:mshaver@edalliesmn.org)