

Hello Senate Education Policy Committee Members,

I am a Minneapolis constituent and I am sending a letter of support for MN Senate File 1048 to improve the existing Minnesota Statute on STI Education requirements 121A.23. As someone who has spent over a decade working in healthcare, I understand the importance and necessity of medically accurate education on STIs and am excited about the potential SF 1048 could bring to Minnesota!

Senate File 1048 will:

The STI Education statute currently requires that curriculum, materials, and instruction be "technically accurate", this bill changes that to "medically accurate"

The statute also says the instruction must help "students abstain from sexual activity until marriage"; the bill removes "until marriage" because abstinence alone is not sufficient STI prevention education and abstinence is an important skill to have regardless of a student's future marriage plans

Finally, the bill adds language that ensures STI education is inclusive of all students regardless of their protected class status defined in Minnesota's Human Rights statute 363A

Thank you in advance for considering your support of MN SF1048.

Kind regards,
Kate Pappas