



April 1, 2025

Senate Education Finance Committee

**SUBJECT: Governor's Proposed Education Budget - SF2255**

Dear Chair Kunesh and Education Finance Committee Members,

The Multicultural Autism Action Network is a non-profit organization serving families of children with disabilities in multicultural communities. We are writing today to express concern about the governor's proposed education budget. We are particularly concerned about the effects of budget cuts on charter schools which serve students with disabilities, special education transportation, and Q comp.

**Elimination of the Special Education Charter Adjustment.** It is our understanding that this proposal removes supplemental funding that charter schools receive to cover the full cost of special education services which will decrease charter schools' ability to meet the needs of students with disabilities.

**Estimated cut:** \$20-25 million

**Reduction of the Special Education Transportation Reimbursement.** It is our understanding that this lowers reimbursement rates for transporting students with disabilities—from 100% to 90% by FY27. This shifts transportation costs onto schools, which could increase the risk that students with disabilities experience disruptions or delays in accessing legally required services.

**Estimated cut:** \$53-60 million

**Elimination of Long-Term Facilities Maintenance (LTFM) Aid for Charters.** This ends annual per-pupil funding that charter schools use to maintain and repair facilities and reduces the ability of charter schools to provide safe, accessible learning environments, which could disproportionately affect students with disabilities who require facility accommodations.

**Estimated cut:** \$19.9- 22 million.

**Elimination of Alternative Teacher Compensation Revenue (Q Comp).** This program funds teacher development and performance pay. This could result in even more challenges to hiring special education staff which are already a high risk priority for staffing shortages.

**Estimated cut:** \$82.1- \$173 million (total across all schools)

Charter schools serve an important role for students with disabilities in the state of Minnesota. These cuts, in addition to those for special education transportation and Q comp, will be disastrous for students with disabilities. We urge you to take the time to work with families, charter schools, and other stakeholders to find better solutions.

Sincerely,  
Multicultural Autism Action Network

Fatima Molas  
Rufo Jiru  
Delia Samuel  
Maren Christenson Hofer