

**Chair Wiklund and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee  
Minnesota State Legislature**

Dear Chair Wiklund and Committee Members,

At Rebound, Inc., our Transitional Support Services Program is dedicated to supporting youth who are system-involved and navigating the challenging transitions into adulthood. We have witnessed firsthand the critical need for a more transparent understanding of how child welfare services are funded and the impact these fiscal structures have on service delivery and youth outcomes. A more transparent and equitable funding structure is essential to ensure youth have access to the early, consistent, and wraparound supports they need to thrive.

SF1898 offers an important opportunity to examine how federal, state, and local dollars are being utilized and where there are opportunities for improvement. By creating a clearer picture of our financing mechanisms, we can better ensure that resources are being allocated equitably and effectively—especially for youth and families who are disproportionately impacted by child welfare involvement.

We are particularly interested in how this legislation could pave the way for expanding early intervention and prevention services, which we believe are essential in reducing long-term system involvement. The ability to leverage additional federal resources, such as Title IV-E prevention funding, is a crucial step toward building a more responsive and sustainable system that meets families' needs before crisis occurs. This has direct implications for our Transitional Support Services Program, which seeks to stabilize and empower youth before they become further entrenched in system involvement.

We respectfully urge your support of SF1898 and look forward to working alongside you to create a more transparent, accountable, and prevention-oriented child welfare system in Minnesota.

Thank you for your commitment to the children and families of our state.

Sincerely,

*Tiara Ford*  
**Director of Programs**  
**Rebound, Inc.**

*Jamecia Smith*  
**Transitional Supports Program Administrator**  
**Rebound, Inc.**

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