



Improving lives for adults living with mental illnesses as well as maintaining the viability of providers through one voice for quality adult mental health services.

Date: April 9, 2025

To: Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee

From: The Mental Health Providers Association of Minnesota

Re: Written Testimony in Support of the Mental Health Provisions in the Senate HHS Omnibus Bill

Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of the mental health provisions in the Senate Health and Human Services Omnibus bill. We are submitting this testimony on behalf of the Mental Health Providers Association of Minnesota (MHPAM). MHPAM is a non-profit association of mental health service providers. Our member organizations provide a variety of critical mental health services for adults throughout Minnesota such as: Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS), Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), Home and Community Based Services (HCBS), Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services (ARMHS), Crisis Residential Stabilization Services, Targeted Case Management, and more.

At this moment when increasing access to mental health care is critical for our state, we must take steps to address the specific issues that are creating barriers in access to services. Multiple components of the Senate HHS Omnibus bill take steps forward in these efforts, including the following:

- Multiple sections from the Mental Health Legislative Network's Regulatory Relief legislation (SF477), including increasing flexibility for currently overly prescriptive mental health regulations and streamlining requirements, to support staff to spend less time on paperwork and more time on direct mental health service provision.
- Language recodifying Minnesota statutes to separate Assertive Community Treatment and Intensive Residential Treatment Services into different sections of statute, allowing for increased transparency and streamlining for future legislative proposals impacting these two mental health services.
- Financial investments in specific upstream and impactful mental health services for children and adults.

Thank you for the attention to our state's critical mental health needs, and the steps forward contained in this bill.

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