



February 5, 2025

Sen. John Hoffman, Chair

Senate Human Services Committee  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2111  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: Support for Senate File 94, Senate File 401, and Senate File 402**

Dear Chair Hoffman and members of the Senate Human Services Committee,

The Residential Providers Association of Minnesota (“RPAMN”) is a 501(c)(6) non-profit trade association that represents small, residential customized living and waivers service providers in Minnesota. The vast majority of RPAMN members are BIPOC-owned, culturally-specific service providers who might not otherwise be engaged in the policy development and legislative processes. We are writing you to express our support for bills before this committee today that pertain to various disability services.

First and foremost, RPAMN supports **S.F. 94 (Hoffman)** which would reimburse providers for providing nursing services as part of the Integrated Community Supports (ICS) program. RPAMN believes the current lack of coverage for nursing services is a significant programmatic flaw that creates a barrier for transitioning individuals who have historically received customized living services into ICS settings. Further, it limits the ability of ICS providers to support potential clients who may be looking to transition out of a hospital setting. Lastly, the lack of reimbursement for nursing services often makes providers overly cautious when evaluating potential residents as they fear not having the resources or reimbursement needed to meet their needs.

Additionally, RPAMN would like to offer its support for the policy changes proposed in **S.F. 401 (Utke)**. We would specifically like to highlight our support for the establishment of a 30-business-day timeline for lead agencies to process service authorizations. While delays in service authorization processes are burdensome on providers, it is much more impactful on people accessing services. The constant churn and delays from administrative processes creates uncertainty and stress for the people we serve. This timeline will ensure a smoother, more predictable process for service recipients and providers alike. Lastly, RPAMN also supports investments in the home and community-based services system like those included in **S.F. 402 (Seeberger)**. Most notably, RPAMN supports investments in the Disability Waiver Rate System via an increase in the Competitive Workforce Factor.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on these proposals. Please let us know if we can be of service to this committee as you work on the next state budget.

Sincerely,

Zahnia Harut, President  
Residential Providers Association of Minnesota