

Sen. Jim Abeler
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2207
St. Paul, MN 55155



March 1, 2025

Dear Sen. Abeler:

The Coalition of Recovery Investment (CORI) is writing to thank you for chief authoring Senate File 1827 which would require the commissioner of human services to make recommendations related to transitional support services for Minnesotans currently on Medicaid who are leaving a substance use disorder (SUD) recovery facility.

CORI and our member organizations advocate for much needed funding, reforms and increased access for behavioral health illnesses such as substance use disorder (SUD) and improving transitions between SUD treatment and reintegration to normal life is sorely needed. Being able to develop transition support services will improve health outcomes and reduce relapse rates. It will also reduce the risk of overdose or medical complications due to inadequate follow-up care.

These transitional services could also have cost savings to Medicaid by decreased emergency room visits and hospital readmissions. These types of services often can reduce the need for expensive crisis interventions such as incarceration or involuntary commitment and in general decreases the likelihood of individuals re-entering the criminal justice system.

Transitional support services strengthens public safety by supporting rehabilitation rather than punishment which is something CORI and I personally have advocated is in the best interest of the state and Minnesotans suffering from SUD for decades.

Thank you for your commitment to behavioral health care. If CORI can be of help or if you have questions, please reach out to CORI's consultants, Sarah Erickson, at sarah.erickson@unitedstrategiesllc.com or Tara Erickson at tara@ericksonpublicaffairs.com.

Sincerely,

Bill Messinger
Chair
Coalition of Recovery Investment