



March 12, 2025

Senator John A. Hoffman, Chair
Minnesota Senate Human Services Committee
2111 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support for Senate File 2215

Chair Hoffman and Minnesota Senate Human Services Committee Members,

The Minnesota Brain Injury Alliance works to raise awareness and enhance the quality of life for all people affected by brain injury. We value collaboration, innovation, and access to quality services, while working towards a Minnesota where all individuals living with brain injury are encouraged to reach their full potential and recognize their importance to our communities. Reaching this vision involves centering individuals who are directly impacted first and including them in all levels and aspects of decision-making around creating, revising, and maintaining any type of people-centered service.

It is with directly impacted individuals in mind that we write to you today in support of SF 2215. We support the idea that individual waiver service budgets must be based upon the needs of each unique individual, and not arbitrarily or solely based upon the location of those widely varied services being provided. Individuals have the right to live in the least restrictive environments, which often depends greatly upon approval of resources and services paid by these budgets. Waiver services and budgets do need to be accurately assessed, but we also need to be willing to review and properly approve individual requests to provide additional accommodations and resources that allow them to continue to live in those least restrictive environments.

We desire to see a Minnesota where all individuals with brain injuries are heard and taken care of fully, and this bill is a good step in that direction. Please support this bill to incorporate more input from directly impacted individuals into any future waiver designs and continue to prioritize their voices as they share their needs. Thank you for your service to the public and your attention to this bill. We are more than happy to continue the conversation and be of any support along the way.

Sincerely,

Jeff Nachbar
Public Policy Director

Maeve Olson
Public Policy Coordinator