

March 21, 2025

The Honorable John A. Hoffman Chair, Human Services Committee Minnesota Senate 2111 Minnesota Senate Bldg. St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Jordan Rasmusson Ranking Minority Member, Human Services Committee Minnesota Senate 2409 Minnesota Senate Bldg. St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Legal Aid/Minnesota Disability Law Center Support for SF 2741

Dear Chair Hoffman, Ranking Minority Member Rasmusson, and Members of the Committee:

Legal Aid and the Minnesota Disability Law Center (MDLC) thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony and support for SF 2741.

Housing Stabilization Services (HSS) help people with disabilities and seniors who are homeless, at risk of becoming homeless, or living in institutions or segregated settings find and keep housing. Once set up in the program it can be life changing, but it is very difficult to access and navigate.

Individuals who receive home and community-based disability waivers are eligible for HSS. However, under current processes, HSS must still be authorized directly by the Department of Human Services. This is different than most other waiver services that a person receives, which are authorized by the participant's county or contracted case manager. SF 2741 would allow a waiver case manager to authorize HSS like other waiver services. This will help reduce wait times in processing applications for HSS, and allow waiver participants to receive HSS sooner.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony regarding SF 2741. We urge you to support this bill.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Purrington

Legal Director/Deputy Director Minnesota Disability Law Center

Ellen Smart Staff Attorney

Legal Services Advocacy Project

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