



March 25, 2025

Senator Ron Latz  
3105 Minnesota Senate Bldg.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**RE: SF2546 (Seeberger) - High-fidelity wraparound grants establishment; mental health services for incarcerated youth authorization;**

Senator Latz and members of the committee,

On behalf of Allina Health, we are writing to express support for SF2546, which would create high-fidelity wraparound grants and mental health services for children transitioning from detention to communities.

Allina Health, a fully integrated health system, is one of Minnesota's largest providers of mental health services with 11 hospital campuses, 65 primary care clinics, and 14 urgent care centers across the Twin Cities, central and southern Minnesota and western Wisconsin. We provide robust, patient-centered mental health services across the entire continuum and serve patients at every stage of life—from child and adolescent to geriatric. Each year, Allina Health's mental health and addiction program cares for over 100,000 patients statewide through inpatient programs, outpatient services in ambulatory care, adult day treatment, and adolescent partial-hospital treatment.

Allina Health continues to experience the impacts of adolescents boarding in our emergency departments or other units. Unfortunately, many of these cases involve adolescents that are caught in a cycle between emergency departments and juvenile detention centers due to the inability to access the services they need in the community. These adolescents are also disproportionately those who exhibit symptoms of aggression and/or self-harm, as well as those with neurodivergent diagnoses. For these kids, boarding in a hospital or juvenile detention center can lead to further dysregulation and a worsening overall state. It is imperative that legislative action is taken to improve access to the continuum of mental health care for children. The provisions included in SF2546 will help ensure children get appropriate, timely care and avoid future admissions or detentions.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important legislation. We look forward to continuing to collaborate on this important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joseph R. Clubb".

Joseph R. Clubb  
Vice President, MHA CSL  
Allina Health

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mary Beth Lardizabal".

Mary Beth Lardizabal, DO  
Vice President, MHA CSL  
Allina Health