



Anoka County

HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION

Community Corrections

ANOKA COUNTY
JUVENILE CENTER

Anoka County
Secure (ACS):
763-324-4980
763-324-4981 fax

Non-Secure
Program (NSP):
763-324-4970
763-324-4660 fax

East Central
Regional
Juvenile
Center (RJC):
763-324-4990
763-324-4661 fax

March 26, 2025

Honorable Members of the Minnesota Legislature
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
St Paul, MN 55155

Dear Representatives and Senators,

I write today to express my strong support for SF 2546, and its companion bill HF 2422, which is scheduled for discussion within the Minnesota Legislature. This legislation develops a grant program for juvenile correctional facilities to better address mental and behavioral health needs of youth. As the Superintendent of the Anoka County Juvenile Center campus located in Lino Lakes, MN, I believe this legislation is critical to assist juvenile correctional facilities in providing the highest level of services needed for our incarcerated youth. On a typical day, we provide services to youth from thirty Minnesota counties. Our regional model helps provide placement options for agencies that might lack resources in their own jurisdiction. With our regional model, we have seen a significant increase in mental and behavioral health needs which can be difficult to address in a secure, correctional facility.

This bill would allow juvenile correctional facilities to develop or enhance their current infrastructure to better meet the needs of the youth in our care by implementing or augmenting the use of trauma-informed responses, creating or enhancing mental and behavioral health services, and expanding case management and transitional services.

I respectfully ask members to support SF 2546 and HF 2422. I believe this bill is critical to assist juvenile correctional facilities across the state to better meet the needs of youth in our care.

Sincerely,

Nate Parker
Superintendent

Working to Build a Safer Community

Anoka County Juvenile Center ▲ 7555 4th Ave ▲ Lino Lakes, MN 55014 ▲ www.AnokaCountyMN.gov

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