

CHANGE INC.

March 26, 2025

RE: Support for SF2546

Dear Chair Latz and Members of the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee,

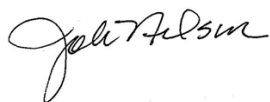
On behalf of Change Inc., we write to express our support for SF2546, particularly the provisions in Section 3 regarding the transition benefit for Targeted Case Management. Ensuring that children boarding in detention have access to vital mental health services and a stable transition back into their communities is essential for their well-being and long-term success.

At Change Inc. we work directly with families to provide critical child development services, including mental health support. We have witnessed firsthand the significant challenges children face when exiting detention without the necessary continuity of care. Without proper intervention and support, these children are at increased risk of experiencing instability, recidivism, and long-term negative health outcomes.

SF2546 takes an important step in addressing these gaps by ensuring that children receive the mental health services they need both during and after detention. The proposed transition benefit will facilitate a smoother reintegration process, enabling children to reconnect with their families, access educational opportunities, and build resilience within their communities.

We urge the committee to advance SF2546 and prioritize the well-being of Minnesota's most vulnerable children. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Jody Nelson, Ed.D., LMFT
Senior Director, Change Institute

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