Dear Members of the Minnesota Legislature,

My name is Anders Christensen and I am a high school student at Simley High School in Inver Grove Heights. I am writing to support the bill that would require health insurance plans to cover augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) systems.

Sometimes I need to use typing on my phone to communicate with other people. Being able to communicate clearly makes a huge difference in my school day, my friendships, and how independent I can be. Without reliable access to communication tools, it can feel isolating and frustrating.

Devices and the support services that help people use them are not extras. They are essential. This bill would help make sure students like me can access the tools we need without our families facing unfair financial barriers.

I hope you will support this bill so that all students in Minnesota have the ability to communicate and fully participate in school and community life.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Anders Christensen

Dear Members of the Minnesota Legislature,

My name is Jurgen Christensen, and I am a college student at Inver Hills Community College. I care deeply about building a more accessible and inclusive world and I am writing to express my support for the proposed legislation requiring health insurance plans to cover augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) systems and related habilitation services.

Communication is a basic human right. When individuals with expressive communication disabilities do not have access to appropriate communication tools, they are excluded from education, employment, health care, and civic participation. Ensuring coverage for AAC systems — including the therapy and training needed to use them effectively — is a practical and necessary step toward equity.

This bill recognizes that accessibility is not an optional add-on, but a foundation for full participation in society. By removing financial barriers and preventing discriminatory coverage practices, Minnesota can affirm its commitment to inclusion and equal opportunity for people with disabilities.

I respectfully urge you to support this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Jurgen Christensen

Dear Members of the Minnesota Legislature,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed legislation requiring health plans to cover augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) systems and associated habilitation services.

I am a Minnesota resident from Inver Grove Heights. I am physically disabled, and my professional work centers on language and communication needs for multilingual K–12 students with disabilities. I know firsthand that access to effective communication is not a luxury — it is essential to education, health care, employment, and full participation in community life.

AAC systems are medically necessary tools that support independence, meaningful interaction, self-advocacy, and self-determination. Through my work in schools across Minnesota and other states, I have seen how critical these devices are for both children and adults to access learning and fully engage with others.

This bill ensures coverage for devices, repairs, replacements, and the speech therapy required to assess and support their use. I especially value the provisions that prohibit discriminatory denials, prevent arbitrary therapy limits, and remove separate financial barriers. These safeguards help ensure that AAC tools are not only provided, but truly accessible and usable.

This legislation is an important step toward equity, accessibility, and dignity for Minnesotans with communication disabilities. I respectfully urge you to support its passage.

Sincerely,

Laurene Christensen