

Health Finance and Policy Committee Minnesota House of Representatives March 23, 2023 House File 1436 (Vang)

Dear Committee Members,

The Minnesota Business Partnership is a membership organization consisting of business leaders from Minnesota's largest employers, employing almost half a million workers across the state. Minnesota is facing a critical shortage in our healthcare workforce, and making pointed investments to increase the recruitment, training, and retention of mental health providers is a thoughtful remedy that will help to expand mental health care access for many Minnesotans, and I write to express our support for HF 1436.

We appreciate the direct investment made to children's mental health to ensure they have every chance available to succeed and receive the treatment they need. The grant programs for pediatricians and primary care doctors are vitally important for having the tools to support their patients and offer mental health support in real-time, as these providers can be the first point of contact for a mental health concern of a patient.

We applaud Representative Vang for bringing this bill forward for Minnesotans and her efforts to provide solutions and investments in our mental health care workforce, and prioritizing mental health availability to children of our state.

Sincerely,

Abby Loesch

Health Policy Director
Minnesota Business Partnership