

COALITION FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

February 25, 2021

Education Policy Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Chair Richardson and Members of the Education Policy Committee,

We are writing to express support to the following provisions that are included in HF 3401. We appreciate Governor Walz prioritizing special education and non-exclusionary discipline policies in his supplemental budget. We urge support of the following provisions as the legislative process continues:

- Strengthens Safe and Supportive Schools Act (Article 4, Sections 1-2)
- Strengthens Restrictive Procedures protections for students who have disabilities (Article 3, Sections 29, 32)
- Strengthens Non-exclusionary Discipline Policies
 - Requires reporting on pupil withdrawal agreements (Article 3, Sections 1, 11, 18)
 - Requires use of non-exclusionary discipline practices (Article 3, Sections 10, 13, 16)
 - Ensures students have access to make up work (Article 3, Sections 14, 15)
 - Other strengthening provisions (Article 3, Sections 9, 17, 19)
- Prohibits dismissals for youngest learners in grades K-3 (Article 3, Section 12)
- Complaint opportunity for parents in district discipline policies (Article 3, Sections 20, 22)
- Removing truancy and attendance issues as bases for dismissals in district discipline policies (Article 3, Section 21)

Thank you for the opportunity to share the items we support in HF3401. Please contact Natalia Madryga at nmadryga@hyldenlaw.com or 952-693-1329 with any questions.

Coalition for Children with Disabilities

The Arc Minnesota • Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota
Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid/Minnesota Disability Law Center • Minnesota Brain Injury Alliance
PACER Center • Prader-Willi Syndrome Association of Minnesota
Proof Alliance