



## Legal Services Advocacy Project

March 10, 2021

The Honorable Jamie Becker-Finn, Chair  
Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Committee  
Minnesota House of Representative  
559 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Peggy Scott, GOP Lead  
Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Committee  
Minnesota House of Representative  
335 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Kelly Moller, Vice Chair  
The Honorable Jamie Becker-Finn, Chair  
Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Committee  
Minnesota House of Representative  
569 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: HF 2010 – Interactive Process

Dear Chair Becker-Finn, Vice Chair Moller, Lead Scott, and Committee Members:

The Legal Services Advocacy Project (LSAP) and the Minnesota Disability Law Center (MDLC) respectfully writes in support of HF 2010. For the past 44 years, LSAP has provided legislative and administrative policy advocacy as a statewide division of Legal Aid. Legal Aid provides free civil legal services across the state for low-income clients, elder Minnesotans, and Minnesotans with disabilities. MDLC serves as the Protection and Advocacy (P&A) organization for Minnesota, one of 49 other state P&A's federally designed under a Congressional act. MDLC provides free legal services to children and adults with disabilities in Minnesota. LSAP is the advocacy arm of Legal Aid and has provided legislative and administrative advocacy on behalf of Legal Aid's clients and all low-income Minnesotans since 1977.

HF2010 ensures alignment of state and federal disability law. It provides for a uniform, "interactive process," an important practice in which employers and employees with disabilities who request reasonable accommodations work together to come up with those accommodations that can allow employees with disabilities to obtain and maintain employment. The interactive process allows an employer and employee to identify options that work best for both parties. It does not impose any new obligations for employers. Thank you for considering LSAP's views. We urge committee passage of HF 2010.

Sincerely,

Ron Elwood  
Supervising Attorney  
Legal Services Advocacy Project

Bud Rosenfield  
Supervising Attorney  
Minnesota Disability Law Center

cc: The Honorable Liz Reyer, Author, HF 2010