

Dear Chair Wicklund and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

We are writing to express our sincerest thanks and appreciation for including Youable's provision in SF 4699. This inclusion signifies a significant step forward in the commitment to supporting the mental and emotional well-being of school-age individuals. We are grateful for the committee's foresight and dedication in recognizing the importance of this provision.

The impact of the funding allocated through this bill will be instrumental in enabling Youable Emotional Health to continue its vital work of serving school-age individuals who participate in day treatment, especially on non school days. By bridging the gap and providing ongoing support beyond the traditional academic calendar, this funding enables Youable to create a safe, regulated environment where students can receive the necessary therapeutic support and academic engagement, bolstering their overall well-being and emotional growth.

Furthermore, this provision will play a pivotal role in addressing the critical need for accessible mental health support for students, especially those facing challenges that hinder their success in a mainstream educational setting. The impact of this funding will extend far beyond the immediate support provided, cultivating resilience and emotional strength in the individuals served and fostering a healthier, more supportive community.

The Health and Human Services Committee's dedication to championing our students' mental and emotional well-being is commendable. We are honored by the unwavering support and advocacy for initiatives prioritizing the mental health and flourishing of our community's youth.

Once again, we express our deepest gratitude to Chair Wicklund and all the Committee members for their instrumental role in including Youable's provision in Bill SF 4699. Your foresight and dedication to championing mental health initiatives are invaluable, and we look forward to witnessing this provision's lasting, positive impact on the lives of the individuals served by Youable Emotional Health.

With gratitude,

Cadi Thyne, Erin Hansen, Heather Swenson
Director of Revenue Operations, Director of Client Services, Controller