Minnesota Coalition
FOR FAMILY HOME VISITING

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

Health & Human Services Committee
Minnesota Senate Building, 1100
S.F. 4388: Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Grants Establishment

Dear Chair Wiklund and Members of the Health & Human Services Committee,

The Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting (MCFHV) appreciates the Health and Human Services Committee for considering how to improve the mental health and overall wellbeing of families with young children in Minnesota. SF4388 establishes Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Grants, to help providers, parents, and caregivers build capacity to better support the youngest children in our state.

Family home visitors work with parents and caregivers to identify the strengths, goals, and needs of each family. Referrals and warm handoffs are made for families to connect with the programs and services they need to support the healthy growth and development of their children. Unfortunately, home visitors have reported that in the weeks and months it takes for mental health consultation to become locally available, children oftentimes require more acute intervention than when the referral was initially made. By establishing Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Grants, more families will be able to access the support they need to care for their young children, before it escalates into disruptive behavioral health concern.

MCFHV believes all families in Minnesota should be supported during their child's youngest years of life. Please join us in supporting SF4388, to establish Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Grants, to support the overall wellbeing of families and promote healthy social and emotional skills in young children.

Sincerely,

Paula Frisk,
Minnesota Coalition for Family Home Visiting (MCFHV), Chair
St. David's, Program Director of Parent & Child Services
Mental Health Practitioner & Infant-Parent Specialist