National Alliance on Mental Illness
MINNESOTA

March 15, 2026

Senate Health and Human Services Committee
Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Ave W, St Paul, MN 55103

RE: SF 4388

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of NAMI Minnesota, I am writing in support of SF 4388. The 2022 Minnesota Student Survey shows that anxiety and depression among students have increased since 2019, along with more students reporting ongoing mental health and emotional challenges. Most concerning, the survey found that over 3,000 11th graders and more than 4,000 9th graders reported they had seriously considered suicide at some point in their lives.

We also see this struggle firsthand in our work with families across Minnesota. Waitlists are growing, access to the right level of care is often delayed, and too many young people are reaching crisis before getting help. At the same time, we know what works – early intervention, prevention, strong family supports, and programs like Youth ACT. SF 4388 helps strengthen these efforts and expand tools that support the mental health of Minnesota's children and families.

We appreciate the committee's attention to this issue and respectfully urge your support for SF 4388.

Sincerely,

Marcus Schmit
Executive Director