



April 5, 2021

SUBJECT: SF 960

Dear Chairman Chamberlain and Committee Members,

The Multicultural Autism Action Network is pleased with the inclusion of several items in the Education Omnibus. The elimination of K-3 dismissals, LETRS teacher training funding, pandemic-recovery education programs for disabled children, and special education funding are all critical to our community. We are incredibly grateful that the Senate has prioritized these items.

We are, however, concerned about the provision for automatic removal of students. We believe it is inconsistent with the intent of the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act and IDEA. We are also concerned about Education Savings Accounts provisions, as private schools, unlike public schools, are not required to meet the educational standards for students with disabilities. These provisions may inadvertently discriminate against disabled students.

We thank you again for your leadership and look forward to your continued commitment to serving ALL of Minnesota's students.

Sincerely,

Fatima Molas (Chair)
Delia Samuel (Vice Chair)
Abyan Ali
Rufo Jiru
Maren Christenson Hofer