



*An Initiative of Minnesota Alliance With Youth*

Dear Representative Jessup, Ms. Holger-Ambrose, Ms. Palmer:

Thank you for presenting bill HF 2768 to the Minnesota Youth Council Committee (MYCC) on Friday, April 20, 2018. We appreciate your efforts towards this important issue for youth and listening to our feedback. As you can tell, the Minnesota Youth Council Committee was in full support of this bill as not a single person rejected it with a vote of 16-0. We are a group of informed people. Although we appreciate the effort in trying to explain it to us, we would have preferred if you presented to us how you would to any other group. We must remind you that as youth this bill specifically affects us and those we represent.

We understand the importance of the wording "A school district *may* include child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation prevention" in line 2.15 to introduce this proposed change and get it passed. We hope that after this bill has passed you will consider rewording this line to *must* rather than *may* to possibly mandate sexual abuse and exploitation education in health curriculum. We also applaud the inclusion of sexual exploitation into this bill.

Some MYCC members were concerned that schools that barely have the budget for their current health programs will struggle to implement this addition to their curriculum. Will there be resources available to schools without the same resources so that they may take advantage of this bill?

We want to provide a special shout out to Jessica Melnik and Girls United MN of Hopkins for taking initiative to create and drive this bill on a statewide level. Since members of the Minnesota Youth Council unanimously supports your bill, please be in touch if you would like support on further outreach and work at the Capitol. We are are committed to supporting and uplifting young people and their powerful work across the state.

Thank you for your time,

Minnesota Youth Council Committee