

# The Arc Minnesota 2023 Support Agenda



In collaboration with our key partners, The Arc Minnesota supports legislative proposals that will positively impact Minnesotans with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This is not a complete list of proposals The Arc will monitor and support.

## **Workforce Shortage Solutions** HF 240 / SF 925 | HF 999 / SF 1015 | HF 1067 / SF 1597

A critical and years-long shortage in the workforce of disability support professionals has real impacts on the lives of Minnesotans who have disabilities. Changing demographics, low reimbursement rates, and inadequate wages create instability for disabled people and providers alike. We support legislation that aims to improve Personal Care Assistance (PCA) / Community First Services and Supports, homecare programs, and other disability waiver services through rate, wage, and benefits increases as well as other innovative solutions and improvements.

## **Supported Decision Making (SDM) Grants** HF 2617 / SF 2397

Building on the 2020 guardianship reform bill, and efforts to promote less restrictive alternatives to guardianship, we support legislation that would fund grants to invest in organizations and projects statewide to help people establish SDM in their own lives.

## **Recess for All** HF 271 / SF 183

Families report that the number of schools withholding or delaying recess as a form of punishment is on the rise. Exclusionary practices and punishment in schools leads to long-term harm for students with disabilities. We support the prohibition on withholding or delaying recess as form of punishment.

## **Changes to Medical Assistance (MA)** HF 1660 / SF 1637

Income and asset limits for MA perpetuate poverty for people with disabilities. We support changes to income limits for people with disabilities accessing MA.

## Accessibility Improvements to Education, Public Spaces, and County and State Services HF 142 / SF 681 | HF 1043 / SF 2972

Accessibility barriers are prevalent in various aspects of life for people with disabilities. We support the accessibility package that aims to address barriers to the Individualized Educational Program (IEP) process for disabled parents of students with disabilities, sensory-friendly accommodations for public access spaces and large public events, and a workgroup to assess accessibility of county and state services.

### Additional Support Items (updated 3/3/23)

- **Increase wages and create more inclusive workplaces for workers with disabilities**  
(HF 2513 / SF 2669) (also included in the Governor's bill HF 2847 / SF 2934)
- **Increase funding for special education services**  
(HF 340 / SF 8) | (HF 18 / SF 28)
- **Strengthening the statewide Housing Support program**  
(HF 732 / SF 992)
- **Address issues with accommodations process in higher education system**  
(HF \_\_\_ / SF \_\_\_)
- **Restoration of voting rights for people who are incarcerated upon release from prison**  
(HF 28 / SF 26)
- **Passage of the SEIU union collective bargaining agreement**  
(HF 1695 / SF 1616)
- **Establish a statewide Guaranteed Basic Income program**  
(HF 2666 / SF 2559)
- **Elimination of parental fees for Medical Assistance**  
(HF 1434 / SF 1201)
- **State rent assistance program established for low-income households**  
(HF 11 / SF 11)
- **Continuous Eligibility of Medical Assistance**  
(HF 914 / SF 531)

*For more information about The Arc Minnesota's 2023 legislative goals visit:  
[Arcminnesota.org/legislative-agenda](https://arcminnesota.org/legislative-agenda)*