



To: Representative Kelly Moller, Co-Chair
Representative Rep. Paul Novotny, Co-Chair
Members, House Public Safety committee

From: The Health Alliance for Violence Intervention

RE: H.F. 2532, A bill for an act relating to public safety; eliminating the community crime and violence prevention account; transferring the unexpended amount to the general fund. - **Oppose**

April 1, 2025

The Health Alliance for Violence Intervention (HAVI) is writing to oppose H.F. 2532, a bill for an act relating to public safety; eliminating the community crime and violence prevention account; transferring the unexpended amount to the general fund. Community Violence Intervention programs provide essential services to survivors of violence and are a critical component of any comprehensive system to break the cycle of violence in our communities. Without this funding, the progress made in reducing violence and supporting communities in Minnesota would be at serious risk.

The HAVI represents 64 hospital-based and hospital-linked member programs and over 38 emerging violence intervention programs across the United States. We are a proud partner of the Minnesota Hospital-based Violence Intervention Program at Hennepin Healthcare-Next Step.

HAVI member programs provide services to violently injured patients in both the traditional health care setting as well as the community. Hospital-based violence intervention programs (HVIPs) vary in the specifics of their design and scope but typically include immediate intervention in the hospital or emergency department after an injury, followed by intensive, community-based care for approximately one year after discharge.

Without intervention, these patients are at high risk for future repeat injuries, retaliatory violence, and mental health consequences, such as post-traumatic stress disorder. Research shows HVIPs are effective in reducing patients' risk of repeat injury, as well as addressing critical needs such as mental health, alcohol and substance misuse, and a variety of other patient-centered outcomes. A randomized control trial found that participants were 84% less likely to return to the hospital with a repeat injury and four times less likely to be convicted of a violent crime.



I urge you to oppose H. F. 2532 and protect this vital funding. Without it, organizations on the front line of violence prevention will be left without the necessary resources to continue this work, ultimately making communities less safe.

Sincerely,

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