

Open Letter In Opposition to AML007-7

Seclusion Amendment - Seclusion Working Group

January 14, 2026

Dear members of the Seclusion Working Group,

We as community members have come together to share our voice in opposition to the AML007-7 amendment being presented in the Seclusion Working Group.

In 2023, after vetting a range of concerns with the safety and long-term mental health consequences of seclusion, as well as the growing adoption of viable alternatives, the MN Legislature made the decision to limit the practice of seclusion by prohibiting it for our youngest learners. Today, as individuals and organizations, we stand with the Solutions Not Suspensions Coalition to state our strong opposition to any amendment being discussed in the seclusion working group that would roll back protections for our youngest learners from the use of seclusion. The K-3 seclusion ban must stay in place

The State of Minnesota banned seclusion for K-3, and the Minnesota Department of Education — with robust stakeholder support — recommended ending all seclusion in schools by 2026.

We cannot go back.

Seclusion is used at disproportionate rates on Black and Indigenous children, and is only used on our children with disabilities. With the K-3 ban on seclusion currently in place, we have seen a 40% drop in its use across the state. This means that our youngest children, because of their size and ability to be overpowered, have been physically pushed into these rooms at much higher rates than their older counterparts. The ban on seclusions is working to protect Minnesota's most vulnerable students.

The AML007-7 amendment will reverse the current ban on seclusions. It is worth noting that after 9 meetings, and 6 months of work, the language in AML007-7 has not changed since its introduction on the Senate floor in spring of 2025, even with the work the Seclusion workgroup has engaged in over the course of these meetings.

Please, vote against recommending AML007-7. The K-3 Seclusion Ban must stay in place because our children in Minnesota deserve to be safe and exist with dignity and respect.

Sincerely,

Solutions Not Suspensions Coalition



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