

March 12, 2025

Representative Bennett, Chair
Representative Jordan, Lead
House Education Policy Committee Members
75 Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Bennett, Lead Jordan and Members:

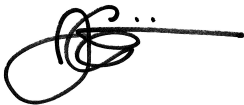
The **Minnesota Association of Charter Schools (MACS)**, a membership organization of chartered public schools from across the state. MACS advocates for students in charter schools, supports charter school innovation, quality and accountability, and facilitates cooperation in Minnesota's charter school community to promote equitable opportunities and excellence in education for students.

MACS supports HF1434, which includes an innovation partnership zone and two specific provisions within that are worth highlighting: (1) Opportunities to develop alternative assessment measures for student achievement; and (2) Establishment of a working group to further innovative education in the state of Minnesota. **MACS appreciates being included in this working group. We look forward to collaborating on innovative ways to improve education in the state of Minnesota to better serve all students, especially those who struggle in our traditional systems.**

There are 173 schools across the state of Minnesota, free and open to all. These chartered public schools deliver various types of programming including Montessori, language immersion, project-based learning, career and technical skills, and outdoor learning opportunities to name a few. There are also schools that primarily serve to re-engage students who have long since been absent in more traditional programs and are seeing success. Documenting and sharing these innovations is essential, alongside measuring success in alternative ways.

We thank you for taking up HF1435, and prioritizing innovation and alternative measurements of student success and accountability, and including MACS in a working group to further this conversation and work.

Sincerely,



Joey Cienian
Executive Director
Minnesota Association of Charter Schools (MACS)

