

March 5, 2021

To: Chair Nelson and members of the House State Government Finance and Elections Committee
RE: HF 139

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the State Government Finance and Elections Committee,

We write as multiple organizations involved in the disability community in support of HF 139. We are so grateful to Representative Freiberg for his leadership on this important issue.

It is paramount for people who have disabilities across Minnesota that our state be equitable and accessible. Accessibility goes beyond physical accessibility and includes neurological and sensory accessibility, intellectual accessibility, language and cultural accessibility. HF 139 would be a great step forward to address this by providing grants to ensure sensory accessibility in public spaces. For people who have autism spectrum disorder or a related disability or other nonvisible health issue with sensory impacts, this would mean more public spaces across our state that are accessible to them.

Our vision for Minnesota is that people who have disabilities are included and experience full participation in the life of communities across our state. HF 139 will move toward bringing that vision to a reality.

We hope you will support HF 139. Thank you to Representative Freiberg for championing this bill.

Sincerely,

