



May 12, 2023

Dear Conferee—

The North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters represents nearly 27,000 union members and their families in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. On behalf of our members, I write today in support of HF 2, Paid Family Medical Leave (PFML) and urge you to support this important legislation.

Ever since the pandemic, the demand for a paid leave program from our members has increased exponentially. We have bargained for it with contractors and have not had much success with moving the issue in our industry. If the construction industry is going to remain a competitive and viable place to recruit workers, we must support policies like PFML.

We believe that the PFML program, as proposed, will give all businesses and workers the opportunity to have a wage replacement to allow for paid leave when we need it: when we are celebrating the birth of a child or when we are caring for a loved one at the end of their life. We urge the conference committee to resolve your differences and join the other thirteen states and the rest of the industrialized world in offering paid leave to workers.

We want to thank author Sen. Mann and Rep. Richardson for their advocacy for working families. Both Rep. Richardson and Sen. Mann have been responsive and engaged with many groups and sectors of the state that will be impacted by this legislation. They have kept the focus on the issue being a benefit; for business and workers, for families and for all of us.

Thank you for standing up for families, we the passage of HF 2.

Fraternally,

Adam Duininck
Director of Government Affairs
North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters