



February 24, 2021

The Honorable David Pinto
Chair, Early Childhood Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chair and Committee Members:

The Minnesota Alliance of YMCAs representing seventeen YMCA Associations throughout our great state would like to submit this letter of support for HF 411, Olson, the **Greater Minnesota Child Care Facility Capital Grant Program**.

There are many communities throughout Greater Minnesota that have a need for affordable child care. The startup costs to establish affordable care reduce opportunities for communities like Marshall and Willmar and others to build additional childcare facilities. HF 411 helps provide communities the resources to invest in childcare facilities, provide additional jobs and give families affordable day care.

The YMCA is the largest nonprofit provider of childcare in Minnesota. Over 2000 children per day attend early childhood YMCA programs throughout the state. All YMCA locations including Alexandria, Austin, Brainerd, Duluth, Grand Marias, Grand Rapids, Lakeville, Mankato, Prior Lake, Red Wing, Rochester, Willmar, and Winona provide scholarships or have subsidized programs to support low-income families. MN Alliance of YMCAs understand the needs for having childcare facilities across the state and this bill will help meet those needs.

The Minnesota Alliance of YMCAs encourage you and the committee to approve this important child care facilities funding legislation.

Sincerely,

David Dominick
Director of Public Policy
Minnesota Alliance of YMCAs
1761 University Avenue West
Saint Paul, MN 55104