

March 21, 2022

Representative Mohamud Noor Chair, Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy Committee 379 State Office Building Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Noor and Members of the Committee:

The Minnesota's Prenatal to Three Coalition (PN-3) is writing in support of HF 4278, which provides funding to the Department of Employment and Economic Development to conduct an early childhood education workforce study. This committee has repeatedly heard about the challenges of early childhood business model and its impact on the early childhood workforce. This study will provide important information about the current early childhood workforce that can inform state, regional and local policies and practices that can stabilize the field.

Data from this study will complement findings from other early childhood efforts focused on quality of care, affordability of care, and access to care. It is important Minnesota has a full understanding of the different to elements of this field impacting funding and policy decisions.

Please join us in supporting HF 4278.

Thank you,

Deb Fitzpatrick, Children's Defense Funds-MN, Co-Chair Nancy Jost, West Central Initiative, Co-Chair Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn, MN Prenatal to Three (PN-3) Coalition, Coalition Coordinator