



May 6, 2021

Health and Human Services Omnibus Conferees:
Senators Benson, Abeler, Utke, Koran and Hoffman;
Representatives Liebling, Schultz, Gomez, Pinto and Shomacker

Dear Senators and Representatives:

On behalf of the Minnesota Board on Aging (MBA), I am writing to ask that you retain the Age-Friendly Minnesota language in HF 2128, Article 14, Section 41. This language will help Minnesota's age-friendly work to continue at both the community and the state level.

Age-Friendly Minnesota is about making critical investments to help older adults live healthier and more fulfilling lives as they age in the place of their choice, and continue to contribute to making Minnesota a better place to grow up and grow old. All Minnesotans deserve to live in towns and cities where they are respected and included, that are free of barriers based on a person's age, and where they are recognized for what they have contributed to our state. People of all ages should feel they and their families can live good lives as they grow older.

As Minnesota's State Unit on Aging, the MBA promotes policies to the state legislature, the Governor and state agencies that accurately reflect the needs and interests of older Minnesotans. The MBA also advises on and coordinates government plans around aging to ensure that Older American's Act requirements are met, while also working to create a collective vision that represents the best interests of older Minnesotans.

If we can answer any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Mezzenga', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Susan Mezzenga
Chair