February 17, 2021

The Honorable Paul Marquart Chair, Taxes Committee 597 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155 maloc minnesota asset building coalition

The Honorable Greg Davids
Republican Lead, Taxes Committee
283 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Marquart, Representative Davids, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the 135 member organizations of the Minnesota Asset Building Coalition, I'm writing to ask you to support the adjustments to the Working Family Credit proposed in HF 991. The Working Family Credit incentivizes and rewards work and offsets other taxes that low-income people pay, so working Minnesotans can catch up on bills, make important purchases, and save for the future. This support is critical for low-income families with children and workers without dependents, and we hope there is a place in the final Tax Bill for the adjustment proposed for both groups.

MABC is a statewide coalition of nonprofit organizations working to support asset building and asset preservation for lower-income Minnesotans. As an asset building coalition, we encourage our clients to build an emergency savings account to prevent small economic setbacks from being financially devastating. We know that the income from the Working Family Credit provides a critical saving opportunity for families that may be living paycheck to paycheck most of the year.

Many low-income workers have lost wages and seen their savings disappear as a result of the economic impacts of the COVID crisis. This is why an increase to the Working Family Credit this year is critical. We can hope for the end of the public health crisis soon, but many families will struggle to recover from the economic impacts of the pandemic for months or years. A boost to the Working Family Credit will support families' immediate needs, help them catch up on bills, minimize impact to credit scores that can impact economic opportunities in the future, and help families begin to rebuild their savings.

Thank you very much for all your work to respond to the economic stress caused by the COVID pandemic. We hope you will prioritize increasing the Working Family Credit to support working families as they seek a financially stable future.

Sincerely,

Anna Odegaard Legislative Advocate Minnesota Asset Building Coalition 612-532-3723 **AARP Minnesota** African American Leadership Forum **African Development Center** African Economic Development Solutions **African Immigrant Services** African Women's Alliance All Parks Alliance for Change **Anoka County Community Action** Program, Inc. **Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Arrowhead Head Start** Asian Economic Development Alliance Asian Media Access Bi-County Community Action Programs, Inc. Bii Gii Wiin Community Development Loan Fund **Black Womens Wealth Alliance Build Wealth Minnesota Building Connections Early Childhood** Initiative **Camphor Fiscally Fit Center** CAPI Cars for Neighbors Casa Guadalupe Catholic Charities Central Minnesota Sustainability Project Children's Defense Fund of MN CHUM Duluth **Churches United for the Homeless** Citizens League ISAIAH City of Lakes Community Land Trust CLUES **CommonBond Communities** Community Action Center of Northfield, Community Action Duluth **Community Action Partnership of Ramsey** & Washington Counties **Community Action Partnership of** Suburban Hennepin

Community Grassroots Solutions

Community Table Association of Cooperatives Cornerstone Council on Crime and Justice Cultural Diversity Resources Inc. Dayton's Bluff Community Council **Douglas County Car Care Program EMERGE Community Development** Family Assets for Independence in Minnesota Family Means Financial Empowerment Collaborative Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community Goodwill/Easter Seals MN **Growth & Justice Head Start-Three Rivers Community** Heartland Community Action Agency. **Hmong American Farmers Association** Hmong American Partnership HOME In-Stead M.O.M.S. Program Hope Community, Inc. **Immigrant Development Center of** Fargo/Moorhead **Immigrant Law Center of MN** Institute for Sustainable Futures Inter County Community Council Inter County Community Council- Head **Jewish Community Action** Joint Religious Legislative Coalition Jordan Area Community Council Junior Achievement Juxtaposition Arts **KOOTASCA Community Action** Lakes & Pines Community Action Lakes & Prairies Community Action

Partnership

Land Stewardship Project Lao Assistance Center of Minnesota Latino Economic Development Center Legal Services Advocacy Project **Lutheran Social Service of MN** Mahube-Otwa Community Action Partnership Main Street Alliance Main Street Project **Metropolitan Consortium of Community** Developers Midwest Minnesota CDC **MIGIZI** Communications Minneapolis Urban League Minnesota Budget Project MN Coalition for Battered Women Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless Minnesota Community Action Partnership Minnesota Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Minnesota Head Start Association Minnesota Housing Partnership Minnesota Valley Action Council **MNSTEP Native American Community Development Initiative Neighborhood Development Alliance Nexus Community Partners Northside Economic Opportunity** Network Northside Residents Redevelopment Council Northwest Community Action, Inc. **Northwest Head Start** Northwest Indian OIC **Nucleus Clinic One Roof Community Housing Pillsbury United Communities** Prepare + Prosper

Project for Pride in Living Inc. Reach Up Head Start Regional Center for Entrepreneurial Facilitation **Rice County Habitat for Humanity** Scott Carver Dakota CAP agency SEMCAC **Shared Capital Cooperative** Somali Community Resettlement Southern MN Opportunity Council Southwest MN Housing Partnership St Cloud NAACP **Take Action Minnesota** The Family Partnership The Lift Garage The Welcome Center (of Austin. Minnesota) **Three Rivers Community Action Tri-County Action Program Tri-County Community Action Tri-Valley Opportunity Council Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity** Twin Cities LISC United Way of Douglas & Pope Counties **United Way of Freeborn County** United Way of West Central MN **Urban Homeworks** Valley Outreach Voices for Racial Justice **West Central MN Communities** Western Community Action White Earth Investment Initiative Willmar Area Multicultural Business Center WomenVenture Wright County Community Action Partnership

MABC Member Organizations

PRG. Inc.

PRISM