

March 28, 2023

Rep. Cheryl Youakim
443 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Youakim and House Education Finance Committee Members:

On behalf of our 18 member institutions, the Minnesota Private College Council strongly supports many components in HF2497, DE1. Thank you for your commitment to supporting the future teacher workforce.

The Council supports critical investments in key programs that support aspiring teachers, including the following provisions in Article 5:

- CUGMEC - \$6 million per year.
- Grow Your Own Pathways - \$23.5 million per year.
- Teacher Residency Program - \$3 million per year.
- Mentoring, Induction and Retention Incentive Program Grants for Teachers of Color - \$3.5 million.

Collectively, these programs will build off the work already underway to recruit, license and retain teachers of color and Native American teachers in Minnesota. We all need to do more to support those who pursue a career of service as educators and the future students of color and Native American teachers our state needs. These investments will help us achieve that goal.

Sincerely,



Paul Cerkenik
President