

May 6, 2021

The Honorable Carla Nelson
Chair, Senate Tax Committee
3235 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155



The Honorable Paul Marquart
Chair, House Tax Committee
597 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Nelson, Chair Marquart, and Members of the Tax Conference Committee,

On behalf of the 135 organizations of the Minnesota Asset Building Coalition (MABC), I'm writing to thank you for including long overdue updates to the K-12 Education Tax Credit in the Senate's Omnibus Tax Bill. This provision is from a bill introduced by Senator Rest and is similar to bills introduced by Representative Keeler and Representative Frazier. The provision has bipartisan support in both chambers, and we urge you to make this investment in our students a high priority for the final Tax Bill.

MABC is a statewide coalition of nonprofit organizations working to support asset building for low-income Minnesotans. About half of our member organizations serve the metro area and half serve Greater Minnesota. We know the opportunity to work, save, and invest in a brighter future creates long-term financial security and independence, and we want to make sure those opportunities are available to every family in Minnesota.

Updating the income limit for the K-12 Education Tax Credit would have an immediate impact on our state's low-income learners and provide economic relief to parents who are struggling to pay for things like tutoring, computer equipment, and driver's education. The educational gaps between low-income students and their more affluent peers is one of the state's most significant challenges, and this credit is an important tool to make enhanced learning opportunities affordable for low-income students. However, since the income limit has not been meaningfully updated since 1997, many families who could benefit from this credit have incomes just over the current eligibility limit. Updating the income limit would make this targeted tax credit available to more families who want to invest in their children's learning but need a little help to make it affordable.

Thank you very much for all your work as you navigate the myriad priorities elevated by the COVID-19 crisis. I hope that updating the income threshold for the K-12 Education Tax Credit will be part your final bill.

Sincerely,

Anna Odegaard, Director
Minnesota Asset Building Coalition

Cc: The Honorable Cheryl Youakim; The Honorable Dave Lislegard; The Honorable Kaohly Vang Her; The Honorable Greg Davids; The Honorable Bill Weber; The Honorable Jeremy Miller, The Honorable Thomas Bakk, The Honorable Ann Rest



Member List

AARP Minnesota
AEOA Head Start
African American Leadership Forum
African Community Senior Services
African Development Center
African Economic Development Solutions
African Immigrant Services
African Women's Alliance
All Parks Alliance for Change
Anoka County Community Action Program
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency
Asian Economic Development Association
Asian Media Access
Bi-County Community Action Programs
Black Women's Wealth Alliance
Build Wealth MN
CAPI USA
Car Care Program
Cars for Neighbors
Catholic Charities of St. Paul and Minneapolis
Catalyst Group
Children's Defense Fund Minnesota
CHUM
Churches United for the Homeless
Citizens League
City of Lakes Community Land Trust
CLUES
Coalition of Somali American Leaders
CommonBond Communities
Community Action Center of Northfield
Community Action Duluth
Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County
Community Action Partnership of Ramsey &
Washington Counties
Community Action Partnership of Scott Carver &
Dakota Counties
Community Grassroots Solutions
Community Table Association of Cooperatives
Cornerstone
Cultural Diversity Resources
Dayton's Bluff Community Council
EMERGE Community Development
Exodus Lending
Family Assets for Independence in Minnesota
Family Means
Financial Empowerment Collaborative
Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community College
Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota
Growth & Justice
Head Start, Three Rivers Community Action
Hmong American Farmers Association
Hmong American Partnership
HOME In-stead M.O.M.S. Program
HOME Line
Hope Community
Immigrant Development Center
Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota
Institute for a Sustainable Future
Inter-County Community Council
ISIAAH
Isuroon
Jewish Community Action
Joint Religious Legislative Coalition
Jordan Area Community Council
Junior Achievement of the Upper Midwest
Juxtaposition Arts
KOOTASCA Community Action
Lakes & Pines Community Action Council
Lakes & Prairies Community Action Partnership
Land Stewardship Project
Lao Assistance Center of Minnesota
Latino Economic Development Center
Legal Services Advocacy Project
LISC Twin Cities

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Mahube-Otwa Community Action Partnership
Main Street Alliance
Main Street Project
Metropolitan Consortium of Community
Developers
Midwest Minnesota CDC
MIGIZI
Minneapolis Urban League
Minnesota Budget Project
Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless
Minnesota Community Action Partnership
Minnesota Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities
Minnesota Head Start Association
Minnesota Housing Partnership
Minnesota Social Service Association
Minnesota Valley Action Council
Mni Sota Fund
Native American Community Development Institute
Neighborhood Development Alliance
Nexus Community Partners
Northside Economic Opportunity Network
Northside Residents Redevelopment Council
Northwest Community Action
Northwest Head Start
Northwest Indian CDC
Nucleus Clinic
Pillsbury United Communities
Prepare + Prosper
PRG, Inc.
PRISM
Project for Pride in Living
Reach-Up Head Start

Regional Center for Entrepreneurial Facilitation
Rice County Habitat for Humanity
Semcac
Shared Capitol Cooperative
Somali Community Resettlement Services
Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership
Southwestern Minnesota Opportunity Council
St. Cloud NAACP
TakeAction Minnesota
The Family Partnership
The Lift Garage
The Link
The Welcome Center
Three Rivers Community Action
Tri-CAP
Tri-County Community Action Partnership
Tri-Valley Opportunity Council
Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity
United Community Action Partnership
United Way of Douglas & Pope Counties
United Way of Freeborn County
United Way of West Central Minnesota
Urban Homeworks
Valley Outreach
Violence Free Minnesota
Voices for Racial Justice
West Central Minnesota Communities Action
White Earth Investment Initiative
Wilder Foundation
WomenVenture
Wright County Community Action
Youthprise