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February 25, 2022

Representative Jamie Becker-Finn
House Judiciary Finance & Civil Law Committee
559 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Becker-Finn and Members of the House Judiciary Finance & Civil Law Committee:

Minnesota 4-H Youth Development supports the removal of the employment exemption for nonpublic service organizations in HF 3270.

Minnesota 4-H is the largest youth-serving organization in the state. We are committed to helping young people of diverse backgrounds learn and lead in a global society while being engaged and supported by skilled staff, informed adults, family members, and caring volunteers. The existing employment exemption for nonpublic service organizations is not aligned with 4-H's values. In fact, our operations will not change if Minn. Stat. 363A.20, subdivision 3 is removed, because we are already dedicated to hiring diverse and inclusive workforces. We know based on research and from our practice that diverse and inclusive workforces benefit children and help us effectively reach all youth with programs that help them learn and grow.

It is time we remove this exemption. Our dedicated staff play a critical role in working with youth across the state to help empower them with leadership skills they can use for the rest of their lives. We support removing the employment exemption for nonpublic service organizations in HF 3270, because we want our workforce to be as strong as possible, and we want the youth who participate in 4-H to be part of safe, diverse, and inclusive environments.

Sincerely,



Jennifer A. Skuza, PhD
Associate Dean and MN 4-H State Director

CC: Dean Beverly Durgan, J.D. Burton