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Senate
State of Minnesota

May 21, 2022

House Chair Davnie and House Members of the Education Conference Committee,

The Senate provides this fourth offer to you. Attached is an offer sheet and a change-item spreadsheet.

At your request, and to facilitate an immediate conclusion of the 2022 Omnibus Education Bill, the Senate takes the following steps:

- \$5 million per year (\$15 million total) for Level 4 Mental Health Grants, which necessitates a small reallocation of cross-subsidy aid.
- Inclusion of all of the neutral fiscal impact and non-controversial House items that the Senate presented earlier for discussion.
- In addition to the above, and in response to Chair Richardson’s remarks and proposals, the following House provisions as well:
 - Physical education standards review and revision delay.
 - Elimination of the PSEO “gag rule.”
 - Food program integrity modifications.

Contrary to what was conveyed by House conferees at our last meeting, it is not an obligation of the Senate to “split the difference” on all of your proposals. Under our system of governance, each body attempts to convince the other body; failing that, no change is made. And the Senate is not convinced that substituting the power of the state government is preferable to relying on our local communities to set their own direction on the many different subjects that the House (and Department) wishes to control and micro-manage.

What both bodies do agree on is cross-subsidy reduction and proper literacy instruction (as well as the several smaller policy items that have widespread bipartisan support and that we include in this offer). We again request that this Conference Committee conclude now on items of agreement and prepare a bill that can be voted on tomorrow so that our schools will receive their cross-subsidy reduction aid

(approximately 40 percent of the existing liability) and so that our youngest learners are instructed effectively and reading properly at their grade level.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Chamberlain". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "R".

Senate Chair Chamberlain and Senate Members of the Education Conference Committee