

March 21, 2023

Chair Hodan Hassan
State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Hassan and members of the Economic Development Finance and Policy Committee,

The Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs (MCLA) supports HF 2440 (Rep. Kozlowski) to provide grant funding to LatinoLEAD.

For nearly a decade, LatinoLEAD has been empowering Latino professionals and emerging leaders in Minnesota through leadership development programs, networking opportunities, and community engagement initiatives. The organization has grown into a vast network of more than 2,500 leaders across all sectors. It has launched successful campaigns highlighting the contributions of Latino leaders and communities in Minnesota.

The real estate study that LatinoLEAD plans to undertake with this appropriation is essential to the organization's continued growth and success. By determining the best location for its office, meeting, and training spaces, LatinoLEAD can ensure that it is easily accessible to the people it serves and can continue to expand its impact across the state.

Given LatinoLEAD's impressive achievements and its dedication to promoting equity and advancing Latinos into positions of leadership, we believe that state funding for the organization is a wise investment. By providing Latino professionals the resources they need to succeed, LatinoLEAD is helping to ensure that the next generation of Minnesota leaders will be diverse, inclusive, and representative of all of the state's population.

Thank you very much for your consideration and support of this bill.

Sincerely,



Nicauris Heredia Rosario, Legislative and Policy Director
Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs (MCLA)