



April 6th, 2021

Dear Chair Noor and Committee Members

I am writing on behalf of the Women's Foundation of Minnesota and the 136,000 people impacted by our work to show our support for HF 1342. While we were disappointed to find that there was no funding for our internship initiative, we are very inspired by the numerous provisions that fund communities of color, women, and women of color. We encourage you and the committee to pass these provisions into law.

- \$3M – technical assistance to small businesses - for grants to small business incubators that serve minority, veteran, and women-owned businesses
- \$10M – grants to local communities to increase the number of quality childcare providers.
- \$2M – MN Initiative Foundations – additional childcare grants.
- \$5.298M (22) & \$5.297M (23) – Grants for the Neighborhood Dev Center, Metropolitan Economic Development Assoc, Latino Economic development Center, Northside Economic Opportunity Network, and African Economic Development Solutions: \$2M each year must be spent for entrepreneurs who are women of color.
- \$750k – Grants for women in high-wage, high-demand, nontraditional jobs.
- Family and Medical Leave benefits.

Thank you for your hard work and consideration and we appreciate you and your committee prioritizing these important programs and look forward to helping.

Lulete Mola

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Women's Foundation