



April 6, 2021

House Human Services Finance and Policy Committee  
597 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Schultz and Committee members:

We write briefly to thank you for including HF 611 in the House Human Services Finance and Policy Omnibus bill. Increasing the gross income threshold on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) from 165% to 200% of federal poverty will help many Minnesotans who are struggling to put food on the table. It will also leverage federal funds we are currently leaving on the table and allow more low-income Minnesota families to work, provide food for their families, and continue to move toward economic stability.

Hunger has reached unprecedented levels, including approximately 1 in 5 Minnesotans experiencing food insecurity and nearly double that rate for communities of color. In tough times, Minnesotans take pride in taking care of one another. In 2020, food shelves across Minnesota served a record level of over 3.8 million visits. History tells us that those hit hardest by the current economic downturn will be the last to recover, and we must continue to rise to the occasion and leverage the resources necessary to help families struggling to make ends meet.

We thank you again for including HF 611 in your omnibus budget. On behalf of Minnesotans struggling to put food on the table, we are grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

*Colleen Moriarty, Director, Hunger Solutions Minnesota*