



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of support for legislation HF1277 to support the child care needs of families in Minnesota.

The YMCA of the North, a leading nonprofit dedicated to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, collaborates with community partners to serve families so *all* youth can learn, grow and thrive.

As the largest nonprofit provider of child care, we see firsthand how early learning scholarships assist in supporting healthy child development, ease the financial burden on families and support Minnesota's economy. We have an opportunity right now to fully fund this program and provide access to support all Minnesota families who need it.

We realize child care is a significant issue and we know we need multiple solutions. However, we know that together we need to start taking steps to tackle how we better serve *all* children in our state and offer access to high quality early care and education opportunities.

The passage of HF1277 would provide an investment in 31,000 babies, toddlers and preschoolers in low-income families. The passage of HF1277 would be an investment in parents/guardians so they can have the flexibility to go to work or school.

The YMCA of the North supports HF1277 legislation that will make a difference in the lives of children and families both now and into the future. Please feel free to contact me if I can answer any questions or provide further information. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kelly Monson
Vice President of Child Development and Learning
YMCA of the North

YMCA OF THE NORTH

651 Nicollet Mall, Suite 500, Minneapolis, MN 55402
P 612 371 9622 F 612 371 9967 W ymcanorth.org