

TO: Members
House Education Finance Committee

FROM: Brad Lundell
Executive Director, Schools for Equity in Education

RE: Support for HF 843

Schools for Equity in Education (SEE) strongly supports HF 843, Representative Zack Stephenson's bill that would increase the general education basic formula by 2% in each of the next two fiscal years and tie future formula increases to inflation.

This is an extremely important bill for SEE membership. While increases in the basic formula are important to all school districts, the basic formula plays a considerably larger role for many low property wealth school districts that cannot generate significant revenue through voter-approved levies. Because revenue from the basic formula plays such a central role in funding for SEE districts, bills like HF 843 help provide needed stability. Tying future formula increases to inflation would also be helpful as it would provide districts with assistance in long-term planning.

The organization thanks Representative Stephenson for introducing this bill and thanks this committee for giving it consideration. If you have any questions regarding SEE's position on this and other issues, do not hesitate to contact me at brad.lundell@schoolsforequity.org or (651) 647-6251/(612) 220-7459.

SEE Districts

- Albany
- Albert Lea
- Annandale
- Anoka-Hennepin
 - Austin
 - Belle Plaine
 - Big Lake
 - Braham
- Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose
 - Byron
- Cambridge-Isanti
 - Cannon Falls
 - Centennial
- Chisago Lakes
- Dassel-Cokato
 - Delano
 - East Central
 - Faribault
 - Forest Lake
 - Fridley
 - Hastings
- Hinckley-Finlayson
- Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted
 - Hutchinson
 - Jordan
- Kasson-Mantorville
 - Kimball
 - Lake City
 - Litchfield
 - Maple Lake
 - Medford
 - Melrose
 - Milaca
 - Monticello
 - Mora
- New London-Spicer
 - New Prague
 - North Branch
 - Northfield
 - Owatonna
 - Paynesville
 - Pine Island
 - Princeton
- Prior Lake-Savage
 - Rockford
 - Rocori
 - Roseau
- Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan
 - Royalton
 - Rush City
- Sartell-St. Stephen
 - St. Francis
- St. Michael-Albertville
 - Stewartville
 - Stillwater
 - Waconia
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- Resource Training and Solutions
- St. Croix River Education District
- SW Metro Intermediate District