

Minnesota Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics P.O. Box 19160 Minneapolis, MN 55419

March 18, 2022

Representative Lippert Minnesota House of Representatives 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155-1298

## Dear Representative Lippert:

The Minnesota Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (MAND) extends our gratitude for and support of HF 4120: Farm to School & Early Care bill. As the representative of over 1,600 nutrition professionals throughout the state of Minnesota, we understand the critical importance of access to healthy food throughout the lifespan. We also acknowledge the benefit of supporting Minnesota farmers to enrich our local food systems. HF 4120 would further reduce barriers to healthy food access and provide economic enhancement to our growers. Not to mention, school and child care center meals have been proven to be some of the healthiest options for children. In a time where health is crucial, we need to appropriate support to programs that serve to keep Minnesotans healthy and economically advantaged.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Angelica Anderson, Public Policy Coordinator

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Alexa (Lexi) Cournoyer, President