

January 4, 2023

Chair Jamie Becker-Finn House Judiciary Finance & Civil Law

Re: CROWN Act (Agbaje)

Chair Becker-Finn and Members,

We are writing to thank you for holding a hearing on the CROWN Act (Agbaje) during the first week of the 2023 Legislative Session. The CROWN Act prohibits hair discrimination by adding a definition of race to the Minnesota Human Rights Act. This change will ensure that no Minnesotan can be discriminated against because of their natural hair.

Last year, the CROWN Act received strong bipartisan support in its passage through the Minnesota House. Public support for the legislation crosses cultural and ethnic boundaries in Minnesota and around the country. Every Minnesotan should be proud of this advance in civil rights protection in our state.

We would like to thank Rep. Agbaje for her leadership in authoring the bill. We look forward to working with you for the passage of the CROWN Act in 2023.

Sincerely,

Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage (CMAH)

African American Leadership Forum (AALF)

Minnesota Business Coalition for Racial Equity (MBCRE)

Minnesota Justice Research Center (MNJRC)