

April 28, 2025

Via E-Mail Delivery

Rep. Zack Stephenson, Co-Chair 5th Floor Centennial Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Rep. Paul Torkelson, Co-Chair 2nd Floor Centennial Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chairs Stephenson and Torkelson,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter related to the House Education Finance bill. MINNDEPENDENT is the largest and most connected organization serving and supporting nonpublic schools in Minnesota. Our current membership consists of 181 nonpublic schools educating more than 41,000 students across Minnesota.

First, on behalf of our member schools, students and families, thank you for preserving nonpublic pupil aids and nonpublic transportation as included in HF2433. These support critical services that students and families rely on – transportation, counseling and nursing services, and textbooks.

By preserving these critical services, you ensure students will arrive to school safely and efficiently, and all students will have access to health care, learning materials and mental health services.

This is particularly important as many Minnesota students will likely enroll in public and nonpublic schools at different times during their K-12 educational journey. This funding not only supports all students but also ensures continuity of services when students move between public and nonpublic schools.

Thank you for upholding a promise to all Minnesota students by ensuring equitable access and services for all students, including nonpublic school students.

Sincerely

Tim Benz President

CC: Members of the House Ways and Means Committee