

March 16, 2021

Rep. Rob Ecklund
409 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Denise Specht
President

Bernie Burnham
Vice President

Rodney Rowe
Secretary-Treasurer

Sara Gjerdrum
Executive Director

Re: Paid Family and Medical Leave

Rep. Ecklund:

Minnesotans care deeply about our families and neighbors, no matter race or place.

But most working families don't have access to paid time off to care for themselves and their loved ones during times of need.

No Minnesotan should have to choose between losing a paycheck or caring for a new child, an aging loved one or themselves. Our state can do better. That's why Education Minnesota supports HF1200, which would provide up to 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave through a state administered insurance program.

Wages would be replaced on a tiered scale – 66% of an employee's salary on average – while protecting the worker's job and health care benefits.

Paid leave is backed by a coalition of 45 organizations that represent health care workers, faith leaders and families and is backed by voters across party lines. Please join us and support this smart solution to a problem that hurts too many workers, families and businesses.

Sincerely,



Denise Specht
President, Education Minnesota

Cc: Members of the House Labor, Industry, Veterans and Military Affairs Finance and Policy Committee

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