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MINNESOTA  
NEWSPAPER  
ASSOCIATION

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**April 16, 2026**

**Re: Minnesota Newspaper Association comments on HF 3732**

Dear Co-Chair Baker, Co-Chair Pinto and Members of the House Workforce, Labor, and Economic Development Committee:

I write on behalf of the Minnesota Newspaper Association, representing journalists and hundreds of news organizations across Minnesota. I want to convey our disappointment in the lack of funding for the Local News Talent Pipeline program in HF 3732, the House Workforce, Labor, and Economic Development committee omnibus bill.

We understand and respect the challenges you face in putting together a feasible budget proposal. It is not a simple task. We also recognize this is the first step in the process. We ask that as you continue your work on this bill you keep in mind the bipartisan support shown for the importance of local news during the Local News Talent Pipeline bill hearing last month.

That hearing showed clearly that you know quality local journalism is critical to the civic health of our state. This proposal to provide real-world training for students and early career professionals is a key step toward ensuring quality local news coverage for every Minnesotan. We are confident the program will have additional impact by bolstering media literacy across the state.

Your actions to support this endeavor will benefit not only students and news organizations, but the community groups, local governments and Minnesotans who depend on local news to share their efforts to better the places they call home.

We respectfully ask that you continue to work to find a way to fund the Local News Talent Pipeline program as this bill moves forward.

Sincerely,

**Lisa Hills**  
**Executive Director**  
**Minnesota Newspaper Association**