March 1, 2021

Honorable Emma Greenman 415 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155



Dear Representative Greenman:

The Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA) would like to share its concerns with HF 1054, which will be heard in <u>Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy</u> today.

MSBA is a statewide organization made up of all 333 school boards. As you likely know, school boards are responsible for governing school districts and budgeting which heavily relies on state funding and property tax revenue from district residents.

School district contractors, such as bus drivers and nutrition workers, have for years worked under the presumption that the job position was during the school year and unemployment benefits were not available. Contractors would pass on any increased costs relating to unemployment to our districts. In school districts, unemployment is a reimbursable expense that is recovered from taxpayers in the unemployment levy. MSBA is concerned that the addition of these part-time employees, property taxes would be increased for our already stretched homeowners.

We respectfully ask for an understanding of taxpayer interactions and consideration be given to funding this legislation.

We stand ready to work with you, and others, as the bill travels this session.

Best,

MN School Boards Association