

Written Testimony HF1335: Income tax rates and brackets modified
Ginny DeLuca

Mr Chair and members of the committee,

My name is Ginny DeLuca. I'm originally from the East Coast and I moved to Minnesota 30 years ago. I'm a stay at home mom and a leader with Isaiah. As my kids have grown up, I've witnessed how state cuts and underfunding of education, childcare and health care have affected our lives.

Minnesotans want state leaders to share a vision for a Minnesota that works for us all. Where collective solutions to our large problems can be solved by working together. Minnesotans are doing all we can to pitch in during this COVID-19 crisis. We are staying home to protect healthcare workers, educators, store clerks, all front line workers, our loved ones. We wear masks and register to get our vaccines. We are always willing to pitch in and help our neighbors. Now it's time for our elected leaders to use the power granted them by the people to lead Minnesota's government for the people.

Minnesota is blessed with richness; the diversity of our people, the natural resources and beautiful environments and the innovative minds of our residents. There is enough monetary wealth to fully fund our needs.

Today many Minnesotans and small businesses are struggling. The wealthy and big businesses need to step up and pay their fair share. The good news is the Federal government is sending ONE TIME relief. We can use this money for housing, broadband and PPE for schools to get them running safely again. To help get us out of this crisis. However, this is only ONE TIME money! There were too many inequities not addressed before COVID-19 too many things important in Minnesotan's daily lives that were not adequately funded before COVID-19 like childcare, education, healthcare. Too many people are hurting. We as Minnesotans know that it's past time for the richest Minnesotans who benefit from wonderful Minnesotan workers to pitch in. We need to create the 5th tax tier for top earners by passing HF 1335. Our government needs to make sure there is sustainable funding to help create the conditions that support our lives on a permanent basis. We can't cut our way out; fear and scarcity thinking won't help. We are GREATER THAN FEAR! As Governor Walz said, " you can make the austerity mistake, cut the very things that grow the economy and stay at the bottom of the trough for a long time." Let's not make that austerity mistake, let's help one another through this and invest in our future and ask those who have gained the most to contribute their fair share.

Thank you.

Ginny DeLuca