



February 26, 2026

Members of the House Workforce, Labor, and Economic Development Finance and Policy Committee:

On behalf of the Minnesota Business Partnership, a membership organization comprised of the top business leaders from Minnesota's largest employers employing almost half a million workers across the state, I am writing to express our support for HF3650: establishing a student career pathways framework to strengthen alignment between education and workforce.

Minnesota employers across industries continue to face persistent workforce challenges and rapidly changing skill demands. Preparing students with clear pathways to postsecondary education, training, and careers is essential to maintaining the state's economic competitiveness and expanding opportunity for Minnesota's learners.

We appreciate several key elements of the proposal:

- **Employer-connected learning:** Expanding access to experiential learning opportunities such as internships, job shadowing, and work-based learning helps students build real-world skills while strengthening talent pipelines for Minnesota employers.
- **Alignment across systems:** Greater coordination among education and workforce agencies will reduce fragmentation and help ensure students can move from high school to postsecondary credentials with labor market value.
- **Local flexibility and voluntary participation:** Allowing districts and charter schools to opt into the framework while supporting local innovation respects the diverse needs of Minnesota communities.
- **Focus on equity and access:** Expanding career-connected learning opportunities for historically underserved students will help broaden participation in high-demand career pathways and support long-term economic growth.

Minnesota's business community strongly supports policies that connect learning to opportunity and ensure students graduate with the skills and experience they need to succeed. By focusing on alignment, employer engagement, and practical implementation, this bill takes an important step toward building a more coherent and responsive talent development system.

We appreciate Representative Mueller's leadership and the committee's consideration of HF3560.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to strengthening Minnesota's workforce and economy.

Sincerely,

Abby Loesch
Minnesota Business Partnership
Education and Workforce Policy Director