BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA



03 May 2021

Honorable Members of the Higher Education Omnibus Conference Committee

Chair Tomassoni; Senators Rarick, Goggin, Jasinski, Clausen Chair Bernardy; Representatives Christensen, Keeler, Klevorn, O'Neill

Re: BAM Written Testimony; SF-975

On behalf of the **Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM)**, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to share written testimony. Our membership of nearly sixteen-hundred builders, remodelers, subcontractors, and industry partners are joined together through twelve local associations across Minnesota, and we are proud to be the statewide voice of the Minnesota Home Building Industry.

BAM is grateful to its members who have worked tirelessly and safely through the pandemic to provide housing opportunities to Minnesotans. House and Senate members of the conference committee, thank you for your public service, and the work you do to move Minnesota forward. Following are issues we would like to highlight for your consideration:

BAM Supports:

•The workforce development scholarship program, expanding it to include "construction" (Senate) as among the high-demand fields specified. BAM also appreciates the language that allows each institution to add an additional area of study based on a workforce unique to the institution's region (House & Senate). Workforce development is important to our members and we will continue to support efforts that open doors to young people interested in careers in the construction field. (Side-by-side R67)

Thank you again for the opportunity to share our input on this legislation. Please let me know if the Builders Association of Minnesota can provide any additional information or be a resource for this committee.

Sincerely,

Grace Keliher

Executive Vice President

Builders Association of Minnesota grace@bamn.org / 612-501-3071

ace Kelher

cc: Sean Herring, House Committee Administrator (sean.herring@house.mn)