



January 10, 2023

Chair Kelly Moller
509 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Moller and members of the Public Safety Finance and Policy committee,

The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits (MCN) is the largest statewide association of nonprofits in the country, representing over 2,200 member organizations across the state. Through MCN, nonprofits join together across interest areas to work on issues of common interest to all. MCN works to inform, promote, connect, and strengthen individual nonprofits and the nonprofit sector.

We are writing in strong support of HF 55, to establish a Missing and Murdered Black Women and Girls Office (MMBWG). Creating an MMBWG Office would hold the Minnesota Legislature and state agencies accountable for implementing the recommendations in the [report of the Task Force on Missing and Murdered African American Women](#) and develop ongoing recommendations to address the atrocities committed against Black women and girls.

This report is a wealth of information and insight and we cannot overstate the importance of all lawmakers holding this knowledge and understanding. The MMBWG office will be critical in continuing to further this qualitative and quantitative data collection so that you as lawmakers have the best information as you make do your work.

The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits looks forward to working with a MMBWGW office, particularly to support Black women-led community organizations by sharing grant opportunities, and highlighting for funders the work being done opportunities for their financial support.

We urge you to pass legislation to create and open a MMBWG Office as it would help address systemic issues of violence against Black women and girls. Thank you for your continuing partnership as we work together to serve the communities of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "marie ellis".

Marie Ellis
Public Policy Director
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