

April 26, 2023

Representative Melissa Hortman Speaker of the House 463 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Speaker Hortman and members of the Minnesota House,

Working America, the community affiliate of the AFL-CIO, unites working people who don't have a union on the job. With more than 300,000 members throughout every Minnesota state House district, we work together for good jobs, a fair economy, and a democracy that represents all of us. We support HF 2 because we believe all working people, no matter where they live, what they look like, or where they work, should have the freedom to care for themselves and the people they love without facing economic hardship.

Since we began organizing in Minnesota in 2005, our members consistently report access to health care as a top issue. Without the benefit of a union on the job, our members lack access to critical benefits like Paid Family and Medical Leave. One of our members in Minneapolis, James, shared, "I could have used this about a year ago. My wife had a stroke and a month later she fell and broke her other arm. We were living on one income for a really long time, and short term disability didn't kick in right away. We really could have used this." All Minnesotans deserve time to care for themselves and family members, whether it's for a new baby, an unexpected illness, or an aging parent.

And because all Minnesotans deserve this time, ensuring access to Paid Family and Medical Leave cannot be left to the private sector or covered through piecemeal tax credits. Small businesses often can't afford to provide a benefit like this on their own. With a broad, statewide pool which covers all workers and a modest shared premium, we can level the playing field.

Our members know that nearly everyone needs paid family or medical leave at some point in their lives. The solution is a state-administered paid leave insurance program where everyone contributes, and everyone benefits. We're standing together to urge a "Yes" vote on HF 2, a strong and comprehensive Paid Family and Medical Leave bill.

In solidarity,

Katie Gregg National Campaigns Director Working America, AFL-CIO



April 26, 2023

Senator Kari Dziedzic Senate Majority Leader 3113 Minnesota Senate Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Majority Leader Dziedzic and members of the Minnesota Senate,

Working America, the community affiliate of the AFL-CIO, unites working people who don't have a union on the job. With more than 300,000 members throughout every Minnesota state Senate district, we work together for good jobs, a fair economy, and a democracy that represents all of us. We support SF 2 because we believe all working people, no matter where they live, what they look like, or where they work, should have the freedom to care for themselves and the people they love without facing economic hardship.

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