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3 TELEPHONIC TESTIMONY OF MS. KIM PETTMAN
4 FOR THE
5 MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
6 RULES AND LEGISLATIVE
7 ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE HEARING
8

9 DECEMBER 20, 2022
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17 TRANSCRIBED BY:

18 Angela D. Sauro, Court Reporter
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1 MS. PETTMAN: Hello Committee,
2 Chair, and members of the public, and the press, and
3 the general public. My name is Ms. Kim Annette
4 Pettman. I have a master's degree in library and
5 information science, a bachelor's in communication,
6 and I have been on a board and have been and currently
7 been on committees. I do some public engagement work
8 and also am a citizen advocate.

9 The reason that I am speaking to you about
10 this matter regarding the State Office Building is
11 because I have personally experienced some issues with
12 the building, observed some struggles that the general
13 public has dealt with this building, and also I dealt
14 with another State building that had issues.

15 One thing I want you guys to really think
16 about: The problems are very well documented, and
17 many people from the public especially are very
18 concerned about the cost. While I do believe that
19 some of the issues of the cost might be related to
20 historical preservation laws, and it sounds like we
21 can't really do much about that. The thing is many,
22 many issues are very serious with this building. I'm
23 a person that got hurt at this building. Other people
24 have gotten hurt too.

25 I worked in another State office building in

1 the '90s, it was the fall of 1997, it was called
2 Capitol Square, another building that was being used
3 in a different purpose from how it was originally
4 intended. People brought their concerns up for
5 decades. Many people were harmed when they worked in
6 an unsafe building. I only lasted three weeks. I had
7 an allergic reaction. Two doctors wrote a note saying
8 that it was an unsafe building for me. That same week
9 OSHA found out that the toxic black mold in that
10 building was over the safe limits. But we knew, many
11 people that worked there knew that it was a bad
12 building. Please know that many people have brought
13 their concerns to you about this building.

14 And please think about this: It is the
15 holiday time and you or your business might be hosting
16 people. Can you imagine if you knew that your roof
17 was leaking, your pipes could bust because they
18 already had, many people couldn't enter your building,
19 you didn't have enough seating, people have gotten
20 hurt, can you imagine how embarrassed you might be or
21 worried as a host; and even if you were a business,
22 same thing; or if you were visiting a place that had
23 issues, you would be like, well, why didn't you fix
24 it. Why are you inviting me here when you know you
25 have problems.

1 This is a place where people need to be.
2 There is also many times where people, kind of like at
3 schools, a lot of people are passing through hallways
4 and it's not big enough. The hallways aren't even big
5 enough. Many people have brought concerns to you.

6 I am also asking that you have a really open
7 and transparent process where multiple people can give
8 their input because sometimes things get missed in a
9 design process while it's being designed, and it's a
10 whole lot cheaper to address those issues before the
11 construction is finished. I'm especially asking that
12 not just a few select people be included in this, but
13 please make it open and transparent. Please show
14 people. Please let people shadow people with
15 disabilities that might be using different types of
16 mobility devices.

17 I personally am hoping that you will include
18 much more seating for people so they don't have to sit
19 on the floor, they don't have to sit on those little
20 window sills that are in the small hallway across from
21 the first floor elevators. Please provide bathrooms
22 that are big enough for people, that have enough
23 accessible stalls. People come in all shapes and
24 sizes. Please provide a variety of seating options,
25 and please also care for your workers who may need

1 accessibility, and please, please always have a very
2 good hearing room layout so that nobody has to get
3 turned away.

4 This is a place where people are to be
5 welcome. I really hope that this will be a welcoming
6 place. It makes the State run so much more
7 efficiently if it's a working building where people
8 are truly welcome. Please also include places where
9 people can wait for rides in a way that they are not
10 going to get in anybody's way. Please include
11 everybody.

12 Thank you very much.
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1 STATE OF MINNESOTA)
2)
3 COUNTY OF HENNEPIN)
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5 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
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7 I, Angela D. Sauro, do hereby certify that
8 the above and foregoing transcript, consisting of the
9 preceding 5 pages is a correct transcript of my
10 stenograph notes, and is a full, true and complete
11 transcript of the proceedings to the best of my
12 ability.
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14 Dated December 20, 2022
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18 /s/Angela D. Sauro
19 Angela D. Sauro
20 Court Reporter
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