

*Dear Senator Rarick;*

*My name is Dennis Ryan and I am a parent of a freshman UM Engineering student who is also a member of the newly-formed Minnesota Men's Gymnastic GymACT Club team. I am writing to support the public hearing your committee has scheduled for Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 1 pm to hear testimony regarding the three dropped sports at the University of Minnesota. I was extremely disappointed when the decision to drop these sports was first proposed by Athletic Director Mark Coyle at the 9/11/20 U of M Board of Regents meeting. We are from southern Wisconsin and our son dreamed of becoming a Gopher gymnast from a very young age, attending camps at Cooke Hall for many years in a row.*

*The hearing on February 15 is extremely important to our family. We have heard there are individuals trying to get the hearing canceled, so we are hoping that effort is defeated.*

*I hope to attend this hybrid hearing via zoom if possible. We are following very closely what comes next, especially any positive movement toward transparency of the use of taxpayer money for higher education and benefits to student athlete programs (specifically the reinstatement of Men's gymnastics, indoor track, and tennis).*

*Thank you for your time.*