

March 23, 2022

Senator Carla Nelson  
Chair, Senate Taxes Committee  
95 University Ave W.  
Minnesota Senate Building, Room 3235  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Nelson and Senate Taxes Committee members:

We believe that the resources available in the 2022 Legislative Session – the projected state budget surplus and flexible federal funds – represent a historic opportunity, and should be used to make transformational changes to build a future in which all Minnesotans are healthy, safe, and financially secure.

The COVID-related recession was likely the most unequal in modern history, and did the most harm to those with the least resources to get through it, including lower-income Minnesotans and Minnesotans of color. At the same time, many of those with the greatest income and wealth saw those resources grow.

The path to a stronger, more equitable recovery is through greater investment in the things that everyday Minnesotans and their families need to thrive, such as affordable child care and early learning opportunities, affordable housing, paid family and medical leave, high quality education from the earliest years through college, infrastructure, and health care.

**We are writing in support of Governor Walz’s approach in his budget to invest in Minnesotans, their families, and communities,** focusing on those hardest hit by the pandemic and the disparities and disinvestment that preceded it.

**We also thank the governor for proposing to expand tax credits targeted to low- and moderate-income Minnesotans** that help bring down the costs of raising a family and maintaining a home.

We look forward to further conversation with the committee about tax policies to make Minnesota a place where everyone can thrive. Please contact Nan Madden ([nmadden@mnbudgetproject.org](mailto:nmadden@mnbudgetproject.org)) if there is any additional information we can provide.

Sincerely,

AFSCME Council 5  
AFSCME Council 65  
Center for Economic Inclusion  
Children’s Defense Fund-Minnesota  
Education Minnesota  
Growth & Justice  
HOME Line  
Homes for All  
Jewish Family and Children’s Service of  
    Minneapolis  
Main Street Alliance of Minnesota

Minnesota Asset Building Coalition  
Minnesota Association of Professional  
    Employees (MAPE)  
Minnesota Budget Project  
Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless  
Minnesota Housing Partnership  
Minnesota Nurses Association  
Prepare + Prosper  
SEIU Healthcare Minnesota  
TakeAction Minnesota  
Youthprise