1/30/2023

Senator Matt Klein
95 University Ave. W
Minnesota Senate Building, Room 2105
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Minnesota Senate File 2 – Coalition Letter

Dear Senator Klein,

We the undersigned individuals, organizations and businesses respectfully OPPOSE the proposed mandatory paid leave program outlined in Minnesota Senate File 2 (SF 2/HF 2).

Minnesota businesses of all sizes and industries are fighting to keep their doors open. Whether they are trying to remain financially stable during the record-setting inflation, attract employees in a national workforce shortage or obtain materials during supply scarcity, the last thing Minnesota businesses need is a mandatory one-size-fits-all Paid Family and Medical Leave program. As it is currently proposed, Minnesota employers would be required to allow up to 24 weeks off per year for their employees.

In a time of state budget surpluses and workforce shortages, our state needs to be seeking solutions to become more competitive, not less. While other states look to cut taxes, this bill would be raising taxes on every business across the state. This bill would leave employers with even fewer employees. Other states are seeking to reduce burdensome regulations to spur economic growth and this bill would implement further regulations and increase the cost of doing business.

This bill is neither equitable nor sustainable, costing taxpayers billions of dollars and decreasing Minnesota's ability to attract and retain businesses. Border communities, such as those of us in Washington County, face a unique set of challenges given our proximity to Wisconsin. If enacted, small and medium sized businesses across the county will be forced to close their Minnesota base business and relocate to a more business friendly state.

Given the implications of this bill, the substantial challenges our current businesses face and the draconian nature of the proposal, we respectfully urge you to oppose Senate File 2. This bill is detrimental for Minnesota Business.

Respectfully,

Sarah Walter
Managing Director