

COMMON CAUSE MINNESOTA

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www.commoncause.org/mn

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Common Cause MN is a nonpartisan grassroots organization working to create open, honest, and accountable government, more information about our work at www.commoncause.org. We respectfully ask members of the committee to support the prodemocracy bills being heard this afternoon.

Minnesota is home to over 18,000 multipartisan members across the state and despite belonging to various MN party affiliations, or not being affiliated, the one thing they've come together to do is support our work ensuring our Republic's democracy is safeguarded, our elections continue to reflect the will of Minnesotans and everyone's vote counts.

To be truly of, by, and for the people, government must reflect everyone it serves. Voting rights, unabridged access to the ballot and safeguards around the integrity of our elections are critical to ensuring all Minnesotans have a say in shaping the future of our families and communities. We believe democracy is how a free society resolves its differences. And in order to do that well, we must all agree the process is fair, produces equitable outcomes, and reflects our communities, our values, and our priorities. Nobody wins all the time, but if the process is fair, at least we can trust it.

SF2121 addresses the need to close some existing loopholes in lobby registration and reporting.

We as members of the committee, and Sen. Carlson to consider the following:

- Do not delete lines 1-8 on page 6 as the details of those expenditures in lobbying either by an individual or an organization, should stay in statute.
- Please consider increasing the threshold for reporting of an individual from \$250 to a smaller number such as \$500 or \$750.

Creating the same reporting threshold for an individual who uses their private funds for lobbying purposes as that for those entities defined on pg. 2, lines 2.9 through 2.16, creates a loophold for unreported expenditures above what the average Minnesotan can reasonably incur.

Thank you for your dedication to all Minnesotans as you work in committee.

Annastacia Belladonna-Carrera

Annastacia Belladonna-Carrera,

Executive Director