

Thank you Chair Hawj and Committee members. Thank you Senator Kunesh for carrying our bill. Thank you to Committee Administrator Kara Josephson for placing our bill on the Agenda.

I am here to testify in support of the Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota (TAFM) appropriation bill for \$50,000 in the fiscal year 2024, relating to arts and cultural heritage. The next speaker will be delving more in detail. I will only say that TAFM provides its member children a root to their rich cultural heritage, help them grow as responsible Tibetan Americans, and flourish as contributing global citizens. The impact of your support will be far more consequential than the dollar amount.

Therefore, please provide your support to enact this bill.

Tsewang Ngodup, MD, MPH
Special Advisor to the TAFM board
Former TAFM President

May 16, 2023