

Jan. 25, 2023

Representative Aisha Gomez 453 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Representative Gomez:

The Minnesota Association of Professional Employees (MAPE) is proud to support Driver's Licenses for All (H.F. 4/S.F. 27). MAPE represents more than 15,000 professional state government workers throughout Minnesota.

This legislation would mean safer roads for everyone. Minnesotans without immigration status would need to pass a written and driving test to obtain a license. With licenses, undocumented drivers will also be required to purchase auto insurance.

Several states across the country have similar programs that are showing great success. After passing laws that allow undocumented drivers access to licenses, Colorado officials say drivers in their state could see savings of \$29.5 million in insurance premiums every year when all immigrants are able to get driver's licenses and purchase car insurance. Since New Mexico began issuing licenses 20 years ago, the rate of uninsured vehicles decreased nearly 24 percent, and Utah has also seen a considerable drop in uninsured vehicles.

Undocumented immigrants play vital roles in Minnesota's economy, and fully integrating them into our economy becomes even more important as the labor market tightens and the state's workforce ages. But, according to the Minnesota Budget Project, without a driver's license, these Minnesotans are prevented from achieving their full economic potential. Increasing access to driver's licenses would broaden economic opportunities for unauthorized immigrants and strengthen Minnesota's economy.

MAPE strongly supports H.F. 4 and urges the House to pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Megan Dayton, MAPE President

Megan Duyton