



January 25th, 2023

Members of the House of Representatives
c/o Majority Leader Jamie Long,
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St Paul, MN 55155

**SEIU Minnesota
State Council**

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Members of the Minnesota House of Representatives:

SEIU is Minnesota's third largest and fastest-growing labor union, representing over 50,000 workers statewide who provide care and support for Minnesota families in your homes, hospitals, public schools, nursing homes, hotels, universities and the Twin Cities' largest public and private buildings, and who make and distribute products used by Minnesotans every day.

Our members organize in their workplaces to help lift standards for our families and strengthen our communities. But we know that our lives don't stop when we leave our place of employment, which is why we also fight at the Capitol for respect, fairness and dignity for all Minnesota families.

It is these bedrock Minnesota values that underscore why we are in full support of HF 4, the Drivers License for All bill.

We want our roads to be safe for everyone. We want all drivers to have the ability to take a test and get insurance so if something bad does happen it can be resolved. But the current law doesn't allow these basic steps for thousands of Minnesotans.

When this law was changed in 2003, it made our neighbors, co-workers, friends and families feel unwelcome. We believe Minnesota is better than this.

Parents will always make sure their kids can get safely to school during the polar vortex. People will always drive their parents to the hospital if they are having health issues. Minnesotans will always drive to work to make sure they have enough money to pay their bills and provide for their families. The current law doesn't change these facts, it just denies people the chance to go through the process of testing and getting a license like everyone else.

We often are on the opposite side of issues from the Chamber of Commerce, but the Drivers License for All bill brings together labor unions, business groups, law enforcement, faith leaders and community groups. We know a small group of people in power will try to divide our diverse, bi-partisan coalition. But we believe Minnesota is ready to show that this bill is one where common sense is stronger than divide and conquer.

Right now, there are Minnesotans who just want to do what is right, but our laws prevent it. Allowing every Minnesotan - white, black or brown, rural or metro - the chance to get a driver's license would mean the world for families across Minnesota who are currently denied the chance to get one.

We urge you to pass the Drivers License for All bill so our roads can be safe for ALL our families.

In Solidarity,

Brian Elliott
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