

March 28, 2023

Senator Mary Kunesh  
3209 Minnesota Senate Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Kunesh and Senate Education Finance Committee Members:

On behalf of our 18 member institutions, the Minnesota Private College Council strongly supports many components in SF2684 A1 amendment. Thank you for your commitment to supporting the future teacher workforce.

The Council supports critical investments in key programs that support aspiring teachers, including the following provisions in Article 4:

- CUGMEC - \$8.8 million in FY24-25.
- Grow Your Own Pathways - \$65 million in FY24-25.
- Statewide Teacher Mentoring Program - \$9.94 million in FY24.
- Mentoring, Induction and Retention Incentive Program Grants for Teachers of Color - \$6.99 million in FY24-25.

Collectively, these programs will build off the work already underway to recruit, license and retain teachers of color and Native American teachers in Minnesota. We all need to do more to support those who pursue a career of service as educators and the future students of color and Native American teachers our state needs. These investments will help us achieve that goal.

Sincerely,



Paul Cerkenik  
President