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Jan. 27, 2022

Senator Melissa Wiklund 2107 Minnesota Senate Building Saint Paul, MN 55155

I am writing this letter of support for Commissioner Jodi Harpstead. I am the Executive Director of the Division of Indian Work, one of the oldest social service agency for American Indians in Minneapolis. Our mission is to support and strengthen urban American Indian people through culturally based education, traditional healing approaches, and leadership development. We achieve this by focusing on community and delivering programs and services directly or in partnership with other organizations.

Confirming Jodi Harpstead as Commissioner of the Department of Human Services will ensure that the work she has led to improve processes, accountability, and transparency will continue. It has been my privilege to serve on an Advisory Panel for the past several years that receives updates from Commissioner Harpstead on various projects in place to make meaningful change at DHS. She has assembled a team of staff dedicated to this work, and their accomplishments are impressive.

I enthusiastically support confirming Commissioner Jodi Harpstead.

Sincerely,

Louise Matson

White Earth Band of Ojibwe

Executive Director

Division of Indian Work

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