

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Minnesota/Dakotas Area State Conference P.O. Box 6472 – Rochester, MN 55903-6472 – (507)358-8820

TO: Whom It May Concern

FROM: William C. Jordan, Jr., NAACP President, Minnesota/Dakotas State Area State

Conference

RE: Letter of Support for Commissioner of Human Rights Rebecca Lucero

DATE: January 19, 2023

I am writing to offer my wholehearted support for Commissioner Rebecca Lucero's confirmation as Commissioner of Human Rights for the State of Minnesota. I have known Commissioner Lucero for the past several years, dating back to her appointment as Commissioner in January 2019. I serve as the Minnesota/Dakotas State Area Conference President for the NAACP and have had the honor of engaging with Commissioner Lucero on numerous matters of critical importance to our members and our communities in Minnesota. Based on those interactions, I feel well positioned to provide this letter of support for Commissioner Lucero's confirmation.

Although the past four years have been tumultuous ones in our state and across our nation, Rebecca Lucero has met those challenges with innovation, energy and a desire to close human rights gaps for all Minnesotans. Using a strategy-based leadership approach, she has been able to achieve greatly and move the office forward fast, to best serve the citizens of Minnesota.

I have no doubt that the best is yet to come for the Department of Human Rights as many of the projects and initiatives that Commissioner Lucero has instituted have yet come to fruition. However, I am confident that under her continued leadership, these activities, policies and procedures, will begin to yield the outcomes that make human rights, and overall life better for all Minnesota citizens. Rebecca Lucero's well informed, well experienced, common-sense approach and drive leaves no doubt that she should be confirmed as Human Rights Commissioner.

Our organization has been proud to work alongside Commissioner Lucero to ensure human rights for our members. We have seen her in action, and we have been duly impressed. We have had the opportunity to serve on Governor Walz's Community Resiliency and Recovery Work Group. Commissioner Lucero co-chaired this group with Lieutenant Governor Flanagan in response to the critical need to view COVID-19 through a racial equity lens. Rebecca Lucero's vocal and visible engagement and sincere commitment to this work is an example of her broad and deep involvement in advancing human rights for all citizens within our state. Having her leadership for the foreseeable future can be a game changer for Minnesota, as she is now well positioned to take bolder steps and make a tremendous difference in the future of our region.

The Commissioner has my utmost confidence. She should be confirmed into the role of Commissioner of Human Rights, and allowed to elevate and amplify the rights of Minnesota

citizens even further. If I can provide any further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

With kind regards,

William C. Jordan, Jr.,

NAACP President,

Minnesota/Dakotas State Area Conference