



To the Minnesota State Senate Commerce Committee,

As an organization representing Minority-owned and operated cannabis businesses across the country, the Minority Cannabis Business Association (MCBA) has been in conversation with the Minnesota Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) regarding their efforts to roll out the state's new adult-use cannabis program in an equitable manner.

To this effect, we would like to offer our support for specific provisions in the **4th Engrossment of SF4782**, as follows:

➤ Sec. 54. [342.125] TEMPORARY LICENSES

- The proposed language provides a positive solution that will lead to greater success of the State's Social Equity licensing program, and of the participating applicants and licensees
- This solution should serve to alleviate the timeline problems that have arisen in other states, specifically regarding Social Equity Licensees being able to make it to market in a timely manner
- We commend the prioritization of Social Equity Applicants in this Temporary Licensing process, and believe that continuing to do so throughout the standing up of Minnesota's program will have both short and long-term benefits

Furthermore, we would like to point out that Minnesota has the unique opportunity to become a leader among states with adult-use cannabis markets, particularly in the metrics and impact surrounding Social Equity. The approach employed by the OCM is one that will foster greater Social Equity, in particular due to their engagement with the community in Minnesota as well as with grassroots leaders around the nation with previous cannabis experience. We encourage legislators to collaborate with the OCM for this reason, and believe the above provisions are an excellent way in which to do so.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your work and commitment to stand up an equitable cannabis industry in the State of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

**Mike Lomuto**

MCBA Board Chair  
Equity Workshop Tour Founder

**Tahir Johnson**

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