



March 18, 2024

Via E-Mail Delivery

Senator Fount Hawj, Chair
Senate Environment, Climate, and Legacy
3231 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Justin Eichorn, Lead Republican
Senate Environment, Climate, and Legacy
2235 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair, Hawj and Lead Eichorn:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter of support for SF5003, legislation introduced by Senator Hawj.

SF5003 provides funding from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund for competitive grant funding to develop high-quality supplemental academic materials to schools across the state. This funding will ensure our students have cultural and materials representing communities who have been traditionally underrepresented including Hmong, Karen, Somali, and Oromo cultures.

The Minnesota Humanities Center (MHC) operates the long-established Educator Institutes with educators from across the state. Educators come together regularly to create materials aligned to the state's academic standards that have been utilized in public and nonpublic schools across the state. For example, MHC worked with educators to develop and distribute *Why Treaties Matter* materials, today widely recognized and used in classrooms across Minnesota.

Thank you for consideration of HF5003 (Hawj).

Sincerely,

Kevin Lindsey
CEO