



*Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of All
Minnesotans*

April 18, 2024

The Honorable John Marty
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3235
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Marty and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to you today to express my appreciation for the inclusion of funding and technical changes in the Senate's Commerce and Consumer Protection Omnibus bill (SF 5301) for one of the Administration's public health priorities around cannabis education programming for youth and pregnant and breastfeeding families. I also appreciate the hard work that both the Commerce and Finance Committees, along with your staff, have put into creating this bill.

By including the funding and technical changes requested in the Governor's budget for cannabis education programming, the Department of Health will be able to provide a long-term, coordinated cannabis education for youth, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and local and Tribal health departments. These changes will allow the department to establish new cannabis education programming as well as hire the staff needed to carry out the programming. The changes will also allow for a funding increase in grant administration for the Minnesota Poison Control System.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brooke A. G.' followed by a long, horizontal flourish.

Brooke Cunningham, MD, PhD
Commissioner of Health

Cc: Senator Matt Klein
Chair, Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee