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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Senator Melissa H. Wiklund, Chair  
Health and Human Services Committee  
2107 Minnesota Senate Bldg.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Paul J. Utke, Ranking Minority Leader  
Health and Human Services Committee  
2403 Minnesota Senate Bldg.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Wiklund and Committee Members:

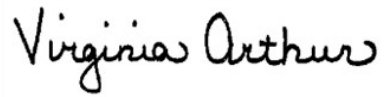
I am writing in support of Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES) and in support of SF4986 to help CLUES meet the growing behavioral health needs for the most underserved in Minnesota.

CLUES has provided a breadth of chemical and mental health services to many hard to serve populations such as new immigrants and Spanish-speaking populations since its inception in 1981. CLUES staff are bilingual, multicultural, and reflect the community, a characteristic that makes them unique. CLUES provides a wide array of services for children, youth, and adults, including Mental Health case management, outpatient therapy, chemical health assessments, and outpatient-focused addiction treatment groups. Participants also gain access to needed holistic services including medical, social, educational, vocational, financial, and other necessary services.

CLUES is unique because it provides culturally responsive services to the Latino community and works collaboratively with us to serve uninsured children and adults and safeguards continuity of care for patients and families. CLUES is on the verge of CCBHC certification, and it is critically important that the organization receives direct financial support from the State to be able to sustain its capacity to serve the uninsured.

We support CLUES' request for funding support from the State of MN to ensure the sustainability of these essential behavioral health services for many underserved patients.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Virginia Arthur". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Virginia" and the last name "Arthur" clearly legible.

Virginia "Ginny" Arthur, JD  
President