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Senator Ann Rest 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Capitol, Room 328 St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Rest and Senate Taxes Committee Members:

AFSCME Council 65 represents 14,000 public service workers throughout Greater Minnesota, including workers in schools, hospitals, and nursing homes as well as city and county governments. We are writing in support of SF 4750, which will create a more transparent corporate tax code in Minnesota.

Our members became public service workers because they care about the wellbeing of all Minnesotans. Many of the programs passed by the legislature are carried out by our members on the ground and they, more than most, understand the needs and struggles of rural communities across Minnesota.

The biggest obstacle facing our members and their communities throughout Greater Minnesota is not the need for jobs and commerce, but the need for public services that can sustain the commerce we have and the lifestyles we value. Across the state, rural areas lack the housing, infrastructure, and healthcare that sustain healthy, prosperous communities.

These collective needs require our collective effort and that everyone contributes their fair share. We are concerned that the largest corporations are avoiding paying their fair share of taxes, and that this burden is falling on small businesses and property owners across the state.

SF 4750 would help ensure a tax code that puts large and small businesses on a level playing field. It would give policymakers the tools they need to see where our corporate tax code is working for Minnesotans, and where it is working against the welfare of greater Minnesota and working people.

The labor of our members ensures that small rural communities remain great places to live, work, and raise a family. Without their dedication, many communities would become unlivable. The businesses that serve these communities operate on small margins but pay their fair share to keep our state working.

We ask you to support SF 4750 to provide transparency so we can make sure the largest corporations are also paying their fair share in order to help Greater Minnesota remain the place that we know and love.

In Solidarity,

Shanno Douvier Executive Director AFSCME Council 65

