

March 19, 2024

Dear Chair Rest and members of the Senate Tax Committee,

The Minnesota Association of Professional Employees (MAPE) see first-hand what the state budget means to the people of Minnesota. Every day our members work to make sure Minnesotans have safe water to drink and clean air to breathe. We work with elderly Minnesotans, persons with developmental disabilities, and our state's most vulnerable so they can live their lives with dignity. We help those with substance use issues turn their lives around. That is why we support Senate File 4750, which would require the Department of Revenue to disclose tax information on corporations with \$250 million or more in gross sales. It is crucial our elected leaders can ensure that our tax policies are having their intended impact on corporations doing business in our communities.

State and local governments are constantly under-resourced, leaving our most vulnerable communities to fend for themselves and decreasing the number of opportunities younger generations have to improve their livelihoods. Our state-operated facilities serving persons with mental illnesses continue to close, including two proposed closures of Community Addiction Recovery Enterprise (CARE) facilities announced this week. These facilities serve complex civil commitments for persons with co-occurring mental illnesses and chemical dependency. We have also closed two units at the Forensics Hospital due to lack of staff and funding for recruitment or retention.

Minnesota has continued to allow corporations to avoid paying taxes through carve outs and loopholes. For example, between 2018 and 2022, Xcel Energy earned \$7.5 billion in profit but received \$47 million in net tax breaks and subsidies, resulting in a negative tax rate. The legislature cannot build a comprehensive mental health system, nor provide basic safety net services, if they do not have the full tax impact information upon which to make these decisions.

We ask for your support in passing Senate File 4750.

Devin Bruce
Director of Legislative and Political Affairs