

The Honorable Sandy Pappas 95 University Avenue West Minnesota Senate Building, Room 2113 St. Paul, MN 55155

March 19, 2025

## Dear Chair Pappas:

The Minnesota Girls Hockey Coaches Association provides resources to develop high school coaches and players to their fullest potential. One cannot overstate the importance of female athletes and girls having the ability to play sports like hockey. The Wild Foundation annually supports us in this mission by providing grant funding to our organization.

In its 24-year history, the Xcel Arena has been best known for hosting the Wild, the MN High School tournaments, plus many events and concerts drawing diverse audiences. The arena complex benefits the entire State of Minnesota. As a recognized statewide asset, it is a major driver of economic activity.

I urge you to support funding to upgrade the facilities and increase their important impact to the state, our association and girls' sports

Sincerely,

Tim Morris Executive Director, MGHCA Girls HS Director, MN Hockey

Bob Sherry Special Projects Director, MGHCA