

Minnesota Senate Committee on Education Policy March 10, 2025 Senate File 2067

Dear Chair Cwodzinski and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on SF2067. To help ensure Minnesota continues to successfully compete in the global economy and maintains our State's quality of life – our members are committed to ensuring every student has the best education possible by setting high academic standards for students, measuring progress towards meeting those standards, and using data for continuous improvement.

In addition to our work toward statewide reading proficiency, we must continue to insist on world-class academic standards for grades K-12, meaningful graduation standards, holding schools accountable for instruction and outcomes, and providing parents with accurate and actionable information. Now more than ever, we must be equipped with data aligned on our state's academic standards on how schools are doing and how students are progressing, particularly on literacy and mathematics.

Strengthening use of that data that is aligned with our state's standards is crucial to ensure investments in education are improving student achievement, supporting proven classroom practices, and narrowing racial and socio-economic achievement gaps.

Minnesota has built a successful framework for learning standards, and we would caution any move away from that. College preparatory testing is certainly an important part of pursuing higher education for students and an important predictor of college readiness, but we must also make sure that we keep accountability at the state level.

Thank you,

Abby Loesch

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