



January 23, 2025

Co-Chair Jim Carlson & Co-Chair Mark Koran
1200 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Ann Rest
328 Capitol Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Co-Chair Carlson, Co-Chair Koran, and Senator Rest,

We Choose Us is a coalition of over 40 grassroots organizations, unions and advocacy groups committed to building multiracial democracy in Minnesota. We write in support of modernizing and expanding public financing programs in our state.

Today, large donors, corporations, and wealthy special interests have more of a say in our elections than we do. Super PACs and dark money groups continue to drown out candidates' own voices and leave voters cynical about their relationship to their elected officials. Small donor public financing is one of the most powerful tools in our toolbox to put power back in the hands of voters, and Minnesota was one of the first states to recognize this with the Political Contribution Refund program.

We Choose Us is working diligently on pushing for a modernized, robust public financing program to ensure small donors are the most powerful voice in our state. The coalition supports the passage of HF9 to modernize the PCR program in lieu of such a program.

Our coalition believes the best way to protect our democracy is to expand it. Policies that bring more people into the democratic process and reduce the influence of corporate money in politics puts our democracy where it belongs: in the hands of Minnesotans.

We thank Co-Chairs Koran and Carlson for hearing this bill and Senator Rest for introducing it.

Sincerely,
Lilly Sasse, We Choose Us Campaign Director