



**Re: Support for SF1911/HF1750 – Minnesota Civic Fund**

March 10, 2025

Dear Chair Carlson and Members of the Elections Committee:

ISAIAH is a statewide nonprofit organization consisting of faith communities, childcare centers, Black barbershops, youth and other community-based constituencies working towards racial and economic justice.

As Minnesotan, we are justifiably proud of our nation-leading civic engagement and voter participation rates. From young to old, no matter the color of our skin or how we practice our faith, we all deserve a voice in choosing our elected officials.

Unfortunately our current political campaign finance system favors wealthy corporations and individuals who can use their economic clout to influence the information environment and outcomes of elections. At the same time, most Minnesotans are not able to contribute financially to candidates and electoral causes they support. This means regular working class and middle class Minnesotans have their interests overshadowed by unlimited amounts of money spent by the millionaire and billionaire class. At the federal level this corruption has unleashed unheard of levels of chaos and cruelty, including the cutting off of life-saving aids to millions around the world.

This is why we write in support of SF1911/HF1750. This bill would empower every day Minnesotans to engage in our political process with donations as small as \$25. In addition to supporting a thriving, multi-racial democracy where everyone has a seat at the table, it would allow candidates to spend less time fundraising and more time connecting and listening to their communities and constituents.

We encourage your support of this important legislation. It is time for Minnesota legislators to stand up and advance common sense protections for democracy and good governance. Thank you for your consideration and your service to the people of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Lars Negstad, Policy Director