March 3, 2025

Senator Kunesh, Chair Senate Education Finance Committee Members 75 Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Kunesh and Members:

The **Minnesota Association of Charter Schools (MACS)**, a membership organization of chartered public schools from across the state. MACS advocates for students in charter schools, supports charter school innovation, quality and accountability, and facilitates cooperation in Minnesota's charter school community to promote equitable opportunities and excellence in education for students.

MACS supports SF2002, which includes two critical provisions: (1) Allows for the continued "paper application" to count for Compensatory Revenue funding, in addition to direct certification; and (2) Establishes a working group to ensure the formula is calculated in a way that is most beneficial to underserved groups of students.

SF2002 is necessary for ensuring school districts and charter schools who are serving students living in poverty don't receive less funding next year as a result of paper application for benefits not being included as a method for calculating Compensatory Revenue. If action isn't taken, nearly three quarters of Minnesota school districts will see a reduction in funding to support low-income students next year.

Additionally, Compensatory Revenue, which exists to address inequitable outcomes for students in poverty, could be improved to better fulfill this purpose. We support the formation of a Task Force charged with creating recommendations for the legislators and appreciate the inclusion of the Minnesota Chartered Public School community in this group.

We urge you to pass SF2002 and address Compensatory Revenue funding going forward.

Sincerely,

Joey Cienian Executive Director

Minnesota Association of Charter Schools (MACS)

