

April 01, 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 of the Committee,

My name is Chloe Bosak, and I am a Paraprofessional at Northwest Passage High School. As you review SF2255, the Governor's proposed budget, I urge you to reconsider the deeply concerning cuts to chartered public school funding, particularly in special education.

At our school, which serves students ages 14 to 19, approximately 40–45% of our students receive special education services. The proposed reductions would result in a loss of over \$110,000 in funding—at a time when we are already committed to essential building renovations planned before these cuts were proposed. The ripple effects of these budget reductions could extend to staffing, including my own pay, and ultimately impact the quality of education our students receive.

Northwest Passage High School is unique in its relationship-first approach, fostering not only academic growth but also emotional regulation, interpersonal skills, and mental wellness—critical areas of development for adolescents. As a former student of this very school, I can personally attest to the impact of these supports; today, I teach the same skills that helped shape me.

Cuts to special education funding and operating revenue would mean fewer services for students, increased strain on educators, and diminished educational outcomes. I urge you to protect the resources that allow schools like ours to provide essential support for all students, especially those with special needs.

As you put forth your Education Finance Omnibus bill, we respectfully urge you to protect this critical state funding for charter school students during this challenging time. Our students need your support now more than ever.

Sincerely,

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Chloe Bosak
Paraprofessional, Northwest Passage High School