



March 31, 2025

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

Dear Chair Kunesch and Members:

My name is Julie Guy, Executive Director at Sojourner Truth Academy Public Charter School in North Minneapolis.

As you consider SF2255, the Governor's proposed budget, I want to call your attention to the proposed deeply problematic cuts to chartered public school students. These cuts include reductions to special education funding.

Sojourner Truth Academy has been serving students for the past 26 years. We serve 400 students from 4 years old to 8th grade and over 60 students who receive special education services. Our school has a longstanding history of serving our special students well, often after a family has tried multiple schools for their child.

In my school, reductions in special education funding and operating revenue for our students would mean cuts to programming and services to families. I have served at Sojourner Truth Academy for the past 23 years. Our school is deeply embedded and supported in the North Minneapolis community. We have several staff members who are former students and have served generations of families.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Julie Guy', is written over the typed name and title.

Julie Guy
Executive Director
Sojourner Truth Academy