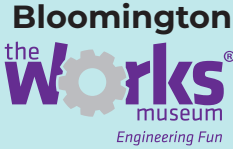




Benson



Breckenridge



Fergus Falls



Grand Rapids



Hutchinson



Mankato



St. Cloud



Rochester



Willmar



## Greater MN Children's Museum Coalition

### House Education Finance Committee/Senate Education Finance Committee April 7, 2025

House Chairs Kresha and Youakim and Senate Chair Kunesh,

Greater Minnesota Children's Museum coalition members serve 400,000 guests annually, capturing visitors from nearly all of Minnesota's 87 counties. For many of Minnesota's children and families, our museums provide the only opportunity to experience a children's museum, or access high-quality, informal learning through play.

The contents of HF1498/SF1301 is a bipartisan fix to an incorrect tiering of base funding allocated for the Greater Minnesota Children's Museums. The 2023 total amount is \$1.09M per year, distributed across 11 museums, currently receiving base funding. This fix would maintain the \$1.09M with the amount of funding for each of the 11 museums based on each museum's annual visitor attendance, ensuring a fairer and more accurate level of support.

The tiered funding has been agreed upon by all coalition members. The funding will ensure continued access to high quality, play-based learning that Minnesota children desperately need.

#### Funding support supports:

- Free museum memberships
- Access to transportation for field trips
- Free or reduced fees for educational programs
- Camp scholarships
- Access to educational materials and resources for teachers

Thank you for your time and consideration in correcting this important technical mistake.

Sincerely,

Jill Measells  
Greater Minnesota Children's Museum, Chair  
The Works Museum, CEO