



MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF  
AREA AGENCIES ON AGING

March 18, 2025

Minnesota Senate Human Services Committee  
Minnesota Senate Building - 95 University Avenue West  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

**Age-Friendly Minnesota Council – Support of SF 2630**

To Chair Hoffman and members of the Senate Human Services Committee,

The Minnesota Association of Area Agencies on Aging (m4a) supports Senate File 2630 to convert the Governor's Council on an Age-Friendly MN into the Age-Friendly MN Council. The Council with the support of the Minnesota Board on Aging and the support of the commissioners of commerce, economic development, health, housing, human services, transportation, veteran's affairs and the Metropolitan Council can take Age-Friendly work to the next level. We are writing in support of the Age Friendly Council plan that will:

- Raise-up the voice of older adults in developing an Age-Friendly state.
- Engage community members, caregivers & other stakeholders in this work.
- Identify opportunities and barriers through collaborative efforts.
- Elevate Age-Friendly work at a local level – creating change in communities.
- Develop Age-Friendly community grants to support cities/others in the state.
- Coordinate Age-Friendly technical assistance grants to support communities.

The MN Area Agencies on Aging (m4a) are fully committed to this effort and have faith that the Minnesota Department of Human Services will be good stewards of funding awarded to them and offer sound administrative support to the Age-Friendly Minnesota Council.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Sash".

Rebecca Sash, Director, Arrowhead Agency on Aging

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Pender".

Heather Pender, Director, Dancing Sky Area Agency on Aging

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurie Brownell".

Laurie Brownell, Director, Southeastern Minnesota Area Agency on Aging

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Vrolson".

Lori Vrolson, Executive Director, Central Minnesota Council on Aging

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dawn Simonson".

Dawn Simonson, President and CEO, Trellis, Metro Region Area Agency on Aging

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Swanson".

Jason Swanson, Executive Director, Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging