

Minnesota Board on Aging PO Box 64976 St. Paul, MN 55164-0976

March 18, 2025

Dear Chair Hoffman and Human Services Committee members,

On behalf of the MN Board on Aging (MBA), I am writing in support of SF 2630 for the continuation of the Age-Friendly MN Council (AFMN). Since its inception, AFMN has partnered closely with the MBA and its work is embedded throughout the FFY 2024-2027 State Plan on Aging developed and implemented by the MBA, which states the following:

"(AFMN) is a collaborative statewide effort to make our systems and communities more inclusive of and responsive to older adults. The AFMN Council's members include leadership from nine state agencies and representatives from greater Minnesota, age-friendly and faith communities, and Tribal Nations. One of its key efforts is developing the state's first *Multi-Sector Blueprint for an Age-Friendly Minnesota*, which is envisioned as a cross-sector plan that engages and coordinates the work of a range of partners, old and new, related to aging.

As one of the member state agencies, the Minnesota Board on Aging plays a critical role in advancing the vision of an Age-Friendly MN. This State Plan on Aging includes several strategies that involve partnering with AFMN, as well as others that are aligned with our shared goals. These goals encompass a range of important objectives, including promoting equity and reducing disparities, fostering coordination among state agencies, and creating livable communities that cater to the needs of Minnesotans at every stage of life."

AFMN is a crucial, innovative component of the aging network in Minnesota. It is also part of a global movement preparing for an aging population by ensuring older people are valued and fully integrated into our communities and recognized for their contributions where we live.

We appreciate your support of SF 2630 to create a supportive and inclusive society in Minnesota where aging is celebrated, services are accessible, and older people actively shape policies to ensure we can all thrive as we age.

Sincerely,

Maureen Schneider

Chair, Minnesota Board on Aging

Marcus Lacider