

April 7, 2025

Re: SF1832 Senate Jobs Omnibus Bill

Dear Chair Champion, Lead Draheim and members of the Jobs and Economic Development Committee,

On behalf of the Economic Development Association of Minnesota (EDAM), we are reaching out to provide feedback on SF1832, the Senate Jobs Omnibus Bill. EDAM's membership is comprised of over 550 of the leading economic developers in the state of Minnesota. Our members use the programs in DEED's Business and Community Development portfolio every day to support the attraction, retention and expansion of businesses that are key to the state's economic vitality. This collection of key programs supports community needs and include guardrails that ensure that the investment of taxpayer dollars supports the creation of good jobs that pay family-sustaining wages.

We wanted to thank this Committee for your commitment to the ongoing funding of these key programs without base funding cuts. Key programs for our membership include the Redevelopment grant program, Minnesota Investment Fund, Job Creation Fund, Business Development Public Infrastructure program, the Small Business Assistance Partnerships Program and the Child Care Economic Development grant program.

EDAM's members work every day to support community needs and to make public investments that support good jobs and economic vitality. Funding these tools at the levels needed to sustain this work is critical to the state's future economic success and we applaud the Committee's support for these programs included in SF1832.

Sincerely,



Eric Maass, AICP, EDFP
Community Development Director, City of Chanhassen
EDAM President

The Economic Development Association of Minnesota (EDAM) is a statewide association representing more than 550 public and private sector professionals who implement state, regional, or local economic development initiatives. EDAM members support continued investment in economic development programs that: (1) All Minnesotans can engage with and benefit from local economies in equitable ways; and (2) ensure Minnesota remains competitive with other economies, both nationally and internationally.