



April 7, 2025

Chair Bobby Joe Champion
Senate Jobs and Economic Development Committee
Minnesota State Senate
3401 Minnesota State Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Champion and Committee Members,
On behalf of the Hmong American Partnership (HAP), I write to express our strongest support for including SF927 in the final budget decisions of this legislative session.

As the largest Hmong-founded and Hmong-led organization in Minnesota and the nation, HAP has been a proven and accountable leader in advancing economic opportunity for historically underrepresented communities. Our programs are not theoretical—they are transformational.

Since our first direct appropriations, we have provided culturally responsive workforce training and support to 497 Minnesotans. Of these, 376 individuals enrolled in job training with a 74% completion rate. Notably, 118 participants earned industry-recognized credentials that help close our state's skills gap, and many now earn over \$20 per hour. These results speak for themselves and highlight the tangible return on investment for our state.

In addition to workforce development, HAP is a critical driver of small business success. Since July 2023, we have supported 848 entrepreneurs, helped create 47 full-time and 14 part-time jobs, and leveraged over \$6 million in private and community investments.

These accomplishments reflect our deep commitment to fiscal stewardship—we keep administrative costs below 20%, ensuring that the vast majority of funding goes directly to the individuals and families who need it most.

Minnesota's future depends on bold, inclusive, and equity-driven investments. We urge you to include this bill in the budget to expand opportunities, close economic gaps, and uplift entire communities across our state.

Thank you for your leadership and continued partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'may yer'.

May yer Thao
President and CEO

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