



March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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*Executive Director*

**Jo Musel Parr**  
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**Brenda Weller**  
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**Troy Bauch**  
*Field Director*

**Kate Black**  
*Field Director*

**RE: Support of SF2290**

Dear Chair Rest and Members of the Senate Taxes Committee,

AFSCME Council 65 represents 14,000 public service workers across greater Minnesota. Our members work in cities, counties, schools, and hospitals providing the vital services that make our communities safe, vibrant, and healthy.

AFSCME 65 strongly supports SF2290, which would create a new tax income bracket high earning Minnesotans. We are currently facing a budget deficit, and that is without factoring in anticipated cuts to federal funding. We need to act now to raise state revenue, or else risk devastating cuts to public services.

We are in a difficult situation in greater Minnesota, especially in the rural communities where many of our members live and work. Our counties are facing funding cuts and will not be able to make up the difference using levies alone. That means there will need to be a reduction of services to make up the gap, leaving residents struggling to find quality options near where they live. It also increases the potential for public services to be privatized, which has historically led to job loss, diminished services, and increased cost to our community members.

SF2290 would help us raise the revenue needed to protect public goods and services. While it will not solve all the budgetary concerns we are facing, it would help soften the blow to public services. SF2290 is important step forward for a more stable financial future in Minnesota, and we ask that you support it.

Shannon Douvier  
Executive Director

**American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO**

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