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THE EQUITY ADVANTAGE

Delivering on the promise of Diversity and Racial Equity



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The Honorable Michael V. Nelson

Chair, State Government Finance and Elections Committee, State Office Building, Room 585

The Honorable Mary Kiffmeyer

Chair, State Government Finance and Policy and Elections Committee, Minnesota Senate Building, Room 3103

The Honorable Frank Hornstein

Chair, Transportation Finance and Policy Committee, State Office Building, Room 545

The Honorable Scott J. Newman

Chair, Transportation Finance and Policy Committee, Minnesota Senate Building, Room 3105
May 12, 2022

RE: Reintegration Driver's License bill
Senate File 4458 (Osmek), House File 4571 (Pinto)
Included in House File 4293, 3rd Engrossment, Article 13, Section 37

Dear Chair Newman, Chair Hornstein, Chair Kiffmeyer, Chair Nelson, and Conferees,

I represent The Equity Advantage (TEA), a nonprofit organization that strives to make the world more equitable and just. Our staff have had the privilege of advising and collaborating with many of the world's most extraordinary social change leaders including legislatures and impact leaders. I am writing on behalf of my colleagues at TEA, all our State and national clients, our community and corporate partners, and the multiple families that communicated with us on this issue.

We support this bill because it makes a distinction between folks who have willfully been irresponsible with their driving privileges and those who truly deserve to have them because their debt to society has been paid. The Reintegration Driver's License creates an opportunity for individuals in the latter case who have served their time to make a fresh start. By approving this bill, you will be:

- ✓ contributing to public safety because it creates a strong incentive to avoid new violations that would lead to a cancellation of the license
- ✓ sending a strong signal that the purpose of the criminal justice system is to rehabilitate and not just to punish
- ✓ reducing the burden on taxpayers by reducing recidivism, benefits employers in a time when reliable employees are an employer's biggest asset – and most important, it reaffirms the humanity of the individual, the possibility for change, and the hope for a better future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Aromolaran', written over a horizontal line.

Michael Aromolaran
CEO & Chief Analytics Officer