

February 3, 2021

Representative Paul Marquart  
Chair, House Taxes Committee  
597 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Marquart and House Taxes Committee members:

We believe that Minnesotans can rise to meet the challenges of our times: a public health emergency unlike any in our lifetimes, a deep and unequal economic downturn, and a long-overdue reckoning with Minnesota's stark racial disparities.

When we fully recognize what our communities need to thrive, it's clear that the gap between current state revenues and the investments needed is large and growing. **Only with new revenue can the state fully respond to the pandemic and hardship caused by the economic downturn, protect existing community and public services that Minnesotans count on, and build the more equitable recovery Minnesotans deserve.**

This recession may be the most unequal in modern history, and is doing the most harm to those with the least resources to get through it, including lower-income Minnesotans and Minnesotans of color. At the same time, many of those with the greatest resources of income and wealth are growing their wealth during this time.

Minnesota is a state of abundance, and we know the path to a stronger, more equitable recovery is through greater investment in the health, well-being, and economic stability of all Minnesotans. **We are writing in support of Governor Walz's approach to raise taxes on those who can afford to pay more, the households and corporations with the greatest resources, and for including tax reductions that advance equity and economic security for low- and moderate-income Minnesotans.**

Wise use of the state's budget reserve and maximizing federal dollars are important short-term revenue sources, and permanent state tax increases are essential to Minnesota's ability to build a more equitable state. We ask you to follow the Governor's lead and prioritize revenue-raising options that focus on those with the most resources, and that make the tax system more fair, equitable, and just.

Sincerely,

100% Campaign  
AFSCME Council 5  
AFSCME Council 65



Amherst H. Wilder Foundation  
Avenues for Youth  
Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen Minnesota State Legislative Board  
Center For Economic Inclusion  
Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center  
East Central Area Labor Council  
Education Minnesota  
HOME Line  
ISALAH  
Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis  
Land Stewardship Project  
LIUNA Minnesota and North Dakota  
Main Street Alliance  
Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers  
Minnesota AFL-CIO  
Minnesota Budget Project  
Minnesota Council of Nonprofits  
Minnesota Council on Foundations  
Minnesota Environmental Partnership  
Minnesota First Community Solutions  
Minnesota Housing Partnership  
Minnesota Nurses Association  
Minnesota State Retiree Council, AFL-CIO  
MN Mental Health Advocates  
Northeast Area Labor Council  
Northeast Contemporary Services, Inc.  
Pillsbury United Communities  
Plymouth Area Indivisible  
Prepare + Prosper  
PRISM  
Rochester Art Center  
SEIU Healthcare Minnesota  
South Sudanese Community of Minnesota  
Southeast Minnesota Area Labor Council, AFL-CIO  
Southside Family Nurturing Center  
TakeAction Minnesota  
The Arc Minnesota  
The Center for Victims of Torture  
UNITE HERE Minnesota  
West Minnesota AFL-CIO