

April 18, 2023

Chair Aisha Gomez Minnesota House Taxes Committee 453 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Gomez and Members of the House Taxes Committee:

Hunger Solutions Minnesota is writing in support of a Minnesota Child Tax Credit and we appreciate seeing the inclusion of a Child Tax Credit in the House Omnibus bill.

Hunger Solutions Minnesota works to end hunger in our state. We take action to assure food security for all Minnesotans by supporting programs and agencies that provide food to those in need, advancing sound public policy, building grassroots advocacy, and informing stakeholders about the status of hunger in Minnesota.

With the high cost of food and end of emergency SNAP benefits, families are in need of support now more than ever to ensure they are able to put food on the table and continue to meet their basic needs. Food shelves are seeing record high levels of need with 5.5 million visits in 2022—nearly 2 million more than in 2021. While food shelves stand ready to meet the ongoing high need, putting money back into the pockets of families in poverty is the best way to combat hunger and promote economic security.

During the pandemic, the temporary federal Child Tax Credit had a dramatic positive impact on families experiencing poverty—including a 19% decrease in households with children reporting not having enough food. We appreciate your leadership and willingness to build on this success with a Minnesota Child Tax Credit to reduce food insecurity and advance racial and economic equity across the state.

Please keep fighting for a strong Child Tax Credit as one of the centerpieces of the final tax bill.

Sincerely,

Jollin Moriarty

Colleen Moriarty (Executive Director Hunger Solutions Minnesota cmoriarty@hungersolutions.org