



Representative Connie Bernardy
Chair, Minnesota House Committee on Higher Education Finance and Policy
563 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

March 6, 2022

Dear Members of the House Committee on Higher Education Finance and Policy,

I am writing today on behalf of the Saint Mary's University of Minnesota Student Senate to express our collective support for the passage of HF3933. This bill has been tirelessly worked on through research conducted by the Minnesota Association of Private College Students, chaired by Jonathon Krull. Jonathon, a senior at Saint Mary's, is the Student Senate Vice President of Public Affairs and has worked very closely with us as this legislation moves forward.

Through research conducted by various organizations on our campus alone, we have identified that over 20% of students on our campus required assistance with obtaining food. Furthermore, over 60% of our student body indicated that they would utilize a food pantry if one was provided on campus. The importance of having easy access to nutritional food, especially in a time when focus and energy is essential, is vital to the success of all Minnesota college students regardless of where they attend school. This bill will do a great deal of good for our campus and the other private colleges in the State of Minnesota. I fully endorse the amendment to the Hunger-Free Campus Law

On March 8th, 2022, Resolution 016 was passed by the Saint Mary's Student Senate, further endorsing the amendment to the Hunger-Free Campus Law. Our senators very much appreciated the willingness of your committee members to consider the hard work conducted by the Minnesota Association of Private College Students. In keeping with the Student Senate's shared vision of enriching the lives of Saint Mary's students and empowering them to lead impactful lives through service and leadership, we hope that this letter of support, along with our desire to make our campus Hunger Free, creates a dialogue amongst the Minnesota State Legislators that results in the passage of this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elijah Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Elijah Williams
President