



March 17, 2024

Chair Kelly Moller  
509 State Office Bldg.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Moller and Members of the House Public Safety Finance & Policy Committee:

OutFront Minnesota writes in support of HF 4417 (Kozlowski) The Minnesota Taskforce for the Prevention of Violence Against Latina Women bill. OutFront Minnesota, founded in 1987, is the state's largest LGBTQ+ advocacy organization that has sought to build power within Minnesota's LGBTQ+ communities and address inequities through intersectional organizing, advocacy, education, and direct support services. We believe that this legislation is important to fostering a Minnesota that seeks to protect Latina women and children.

Today, we support the Minnesota Taskforce for the Prevention of Violence Against Latina Women bill (HF 4417) which would protect the most vulnerable people in the Latinx community from violence – either by partners or others – women and their children. We want to emphasize the inextricable link between the fight for civil rights for the Latinx and LGBTQ+ communities. We are reminded that the current criminal justice and law enforcement systems all too often do not see marginalized communities equally nor treat them fairly. Even more so, we have seen Latina women and girls neglected the most by these systems.

OutFront Minnesota supports Minnesota's Latinx community. We recognize that many in the LGBTQ+ community are Latinx and already experience trauma of violence, exploitation, and likely immigration challenges. We want to provide intersectional support to our Latinx LGBTQ+ community, so that they know that their challenges are *all* of our challenges.

OutFront Minnesota seeks to ensure that Minnesota's criminal justice and public safety systems are fair and equitable. The passage HF 4417 will advance those goals; and support Latinx families and communities. OutFront Minnesota respectfully urges your support for HF 4417 the Minnesota Taskforce for the Prevention of Violence Against Latina Women bill.

Sincerely,

Karlton A. Laster  
Director, Policy & Organizing