

March 21, 2023

Senator Melissa Wiklund Chair, Senate Health and Human Services Committee

Representative Tina Liebling Chair, House Health Finance and Policy Committee

Dear Chair Wiklund and Chair Liebling,

On behalf of the 70,000 union construction professionals in the state of Minnesota, we write to express our support for HF2505 and SF2269 which will provide badly needed funds to help victims of labor trafficking.

The Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council and our affiliates represent unionized workers across all crafts within the construction industry. As you know, we are dedicated to improving the lives of all construction workers. For years, we have been fighting against wage theft, labor trafficking and worker abuse in the non-union construction industry and are very pleased that more attention has been focused on eradicating this scourge in recent years. While we applaud the work being done by local and state enforcement agencies to crack down on abusers, we also know that trafficked workers must have organizations that they can trust and turn to for support.

I strongly encourage you to support this bill in order to make sure there is a safety net in place for trafficking victims, including those who work in our industry. Please support SF2269/HF2505 and consider including it in your omnibus bill.

Sincerely,

Tom Dicklich Executive Director Minnesota Building and Construction Trades Council