



March 18, 2024

Chair Mike Freiberg  
381 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Larry Kraft  
515 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Freiberg and Representative Kraft,

We Choose Us (WCU) is a coalition of over 40 grassroots organizations, unions and advocacy groups committed to building multiracial democracy in Minnesota. We write to share our support for HF4068 (Kraft) which would help to ensure that young people who are eligible to register or pre-register to vote have the information they need to do so.

Last session, We Choose Us helped support the passage of the Democracy for the People Act (HF3), landmark legislation that reduced numerous barriers to voter participation in our state. One component of the new law is voter pre-registration, allowing 16- and 17-year old eligible Minnesotans to fill out a pre-registration form and then become an active registered voter as soon as they turn 18. Pre-registration encourages more civic participation at a younger age, and has been proven to increase turnout among young voters aged 18-21<sup>1</sup>.

HF4068 adds provisions that would make this process easier and more accessible to young aspiring voters. Providing voter registration and pre-registration applications through the schools will ensure that students are aware of their registration options, and understand how to complete their applications. School districts can also share methods that were helpful in increasing student registration under this bill. Every current and future voter deserves to know how they can participate in our democracy, and this bill will help to bring that essential information to students in every corner of our state.

When young people think of themselves as voters, before they are officially so, they are much more likely to cast a ballot in their first eligible election. Feeling included in rather than intimidated by the election process can help make voting a lifelong habit for our next generation of civically active Minnesotans. We Choose Us works primarily to cultivate a thriving, multiracial, multicultural, multigenerational democracy, and for that to become a reality, young people need to play an active role.

We thank Representative Kraft and Chair Freiberg for introducing and hearing this bill respectively, and ask for House Elections Finance and Policy committee members' support of this legislation.

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<sup>1</sup> CIRCLE, "[Growing Voters: Building Institutions and Community Ecosystems for Equitable Electoral Participation](#)", June 2022.



Sincerely,  
Lilly Sasse, We Choose Us Campaign Director  
and We Choose Us Coalition Partners:

100% Campaign	ISAIAH
Asian American Organizing Project	Jewish Community Action
African Career Education and Resources	Land Stewardship Project
AFL-CIO	League of Women Voters
AFSCME Council 5	Main Street Alliance
Ayada Leads	Minnesota Association of Professional Employees
Barbershop and Black Congregation Cooperative	Minnesota Association of Peacemakers
CAIR Minnesota	Minnesota Nurses Association
Citizens United	Minnesota Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Alliance
Clean Elections Minnesota	Minnesota Voice
Clean Water Action	Minnesota Move to Amend State Network
Conservation Minnesota	Muslim Coalition
COPAL	Native American Community Development Institute
ERA Minnesota	New Justice Project
Fe y Justicia	OutFront Minnesota
Fair Vote	Planned Parenthood
Grassroots in Action	Pro-Choice MN
Healthy Democracy Healthy People	SEIU
Indivisible	TakeAction Minnesota
Inquilinxs Unidxs por Justicia	Ujamaa Place
Inter Faculty Organization	Unidos
Interfaith Power and Light	We Win Institute