## Minnesota Senate

Senator Foung Hawj POCI Caucus Co-Chair

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May 28, 2020

Governor Tim Walz 130 State Capitol 75 Rev. Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. St. Paul. MN 55155

Commissioner John Harrington 445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1000 St. Paul, MN 55101

Sent via electronic mail

To the above named officials,

Minnesota House of Representatives

Representative Rena Moran POCI Caucus Co-Chair

575 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155 Phone: 651- 296-2491

Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman C-2000 Government Center 300 South Sixth Street Minneapolis, MN 55487

Attorney General Keith Ellison 445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1400 St. Paul, MN 55101

We address this to all of you, who hold the power to determine what happens next in response to the killing of George Floyd.

Some members of our caucus are attorneys and many have experience with our criminal justice system, but none of that is necessary to know that swift action is necessary. One need only be human and to have watched the video of Mr. Floyd's last minutes of life to know that justice requires criminal accountability for those responsible for his death.

We acknowledge that legislative action is needed on various fronts to address the pervasive, serious problems with law enforcement in our state. We will continue as a caucus and as individuals to actively press for change at the Capitol. But none of that is relevant to whether it was wrong for Officer Chauvin to hear "I can't breathe" and to continue pressing down on Mr. Floyd's neck, or for Officers Thao, Lane, and Kueng to hear "I can't breathe" and to do nothing to save Mr. Floyd's life.

If the duty of law enforcement is to serve and protect, they failed at the most basic level. Nobody was protected by their actions, and they have caused irreparable harm to Mr. Floyd's family and the entire community. Please do all that is in your power to expeditiously complete the investigation and file criminal charges against all of the officers responsible. No excuses, only justice.

Respectfully,

Representative Rena Moran (65A) Co-Chair POCI Caucus Senator Foung Hawj (67) Co-Chair POCI Caucus Representative Samantha Vang (40B)

Representative Jamie Becker-Finn (42B)

Representative Ruth Richardson (52B)

Representative Alice Mann (56B)

Representative Fue Lee (59A)

Senator Jeff Hayden (62)

Representative Aisha Gomez (62B)

Representative Kaohly Her (64A)

Representative Jay Xiong (67B)

Representative Mary Kunesh-Podein (41B)

Senator Melisa Franzen (49)

Representative Tou Xiong (53A)

Senator Bobby Joe Champion (59)

Representative Mohamud Noor (60B)

Representative Hodan Hassan (62A)

Senator Patricia Torres Ray (63)

Representative Carlos Mariani (65B)