

Melissa Hortman
Speaker of the House

District 36B
Anoka
Hennepin



Minnesota House of Representatives

August 17th, 2022

Patricia Nauman, Metro Cities
Scott Croonquist, Association of Metropolitan School Districts
Todd Patzer, Association of Minnesota Counties
Brian Holmer, Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities
Ron Johnson, League of Minnesota Cities
Matt Stemwedel, Metro Cities (Association of Metropolitan Municipalities)
Deb Henton, Minnesota Association of School Administrators
Cap O'Rourke, Minnesota Association of Small Cities
Gary Burdorf, Minnesota Association of Townships
Matt Massman, Minnesota Inter-County Association
Luke Johnson, Minnesota Rural Counties
Kirk Schneidawind, Minnesota School Boards Association
James Hovland, Municipal Legislative Commission
Jerry Koch, North Metro Mayors Association
Ida Rukavina, Range Association of Municipalities and Schools
Brenda Johnson, Southeastern MN League of Municipalities
Brad Lundell, Schools for Equity in Education
Bob Byrnes, Patrick Baustian, Dave Smiglewski, Myron Koets, and Mike Kuhle, Southwest MN Council of Mayors

Dear Patricia et al.,

Thank you for contacting me in support of a special legislative session to finish important work. I appreciate your input and agree completely.

As you know, in mid-May a session-ending budget framework was agreed to and signed by me, Senate Majority Leader Miller, and Governor Walz to cut taxes for workers and families; and invest in people and communities. In addition, key federal infrastructure funds would have been accessed in several bills.

When the constitutionally mandated May 23rd adjournment date was reached without consensus on several bills, the House DFL and Governor Walz remained ready to work, compromise, and finish up this important work in a special session. Unfortunately, Senate Republicans walked away from the negotiations. We are still ready to take action, but as of this writing Senate Republicans remain firm in their opposition.

My DFL colleagues and I believe we should return and pass the largest tax cut in state history, key investments in K-12 education, a bonding bill that will improve our infrastructure, matching state funds to access billions of dollars in federal infrastructure funds, and crucial investments in nursing homes, child care, public safety, and housing. As the Speaker of the House, I will continue to urge Senate Republicans to return to the table and join us in finishing the work to help Minnesotans.

Thank you again for reaching out, and please always feel free to contact me whenever I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Hortman". The script is cursive and fluid.

Melissa Hortman
Speaker of the House
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