



March 12, 2021

Dear members of the Senate Education Finance and Policy Committee,

On behalf of Educators for Excellence - Minnesota (E4E), a teacher-led nonprofit with approximately 2,300 members across the state, we are submitting the following written testimony in support of SF 1537.

E4E's members are united around a common vision of an excellent and equitable education system that offers all students the opportunity to succeed and that elevates the teaching profession. Our members are tireless advocates, seeking to make the bold changes our state's students deserve. Since the start of the pandemic, E4E members have focused their efforts on ensuring that our educational resources reach the students who have been most impacted by abrupt changes to teaching and learning.

As educators, all of our work is driven by our passion for our students and the belief that every child deserves an excellent education. We believe it is our responsibility to inspire and equip all students to succeed in college, career and life. We know that disparities in our public education system are linked to race, power and privilege, and we must take action to address these inequities.

Furthermore, we believe that access to rigorous courses must be equitable, and therefore we advocate for data transparency provisions in SF 1537. Decision-makers need to be able to know the following:

- The percentage of students enrolled in AP, IB, PSEO, and concurrent enrollment,
- The percentage of students who took the AP and IB exams, and the percentage of who passed, and
- The percentage of students who are on-track for graduation after 9th grade.

We call on the Senate Education Finance and Policy Committee to get behind SF 1537 in order to increase college and career readiness and to ensure that each child leaves our K-12 education system with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed.

We invite further dialogue! Our members are available to speak with you, should you have questions.

In partnership,

Paula Cole
Executive Director, E4E-MN