

Melissa  
**Hortman**  
*State Representative*

**Rep. Melissa Hortman**  
463 State Office Building  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear neighbor,

It's a privilege to represent our community in the Minnesota House of Representatives. I'm writing to provide you with an update on the 2023-2024 Legislative Session.

House and Senate DFL majorities worked with Governor Walz to replace gridlock and timidity with historic progress for Minnesotans on the issues they told us they care about most: good public schools, making health care more affordable and accessible, improving economic security for workers and families, protecting reproductive freedom, taking action on climate change, reducing gun violence, and strengthening our democracy.

The values behind our work were simple: We believe that all Minnesotans — no matter where you live or what you look like — should have the opportunity to build better lives for themselves and their families.

Despite the progress we all made together, many of the challenges Minnesotans are facing can't be solved in a single two-year legislative session. I'm committed to continuing our collaboration with Minnesotans to build a state that truly works better for everyone.

Please contact me anytime with your input — I appreciate hearing from you! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melissa Hortman

*Melissa Hortman*

Speaker of the House



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RepMelissaHortman



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A large photograph of Melissa Hortman, a woman with blonde hair, wearing a dark blazer over a white top with a black lace collar. She is standing at a podium with a microphone, looking slightly to her right. The background is a red wall with a wooden panel and a flag.

# 2024 Legislative Report

## Investing in Minnesota's Students

Minnesota's children and students deserve every chance to succeed. DFLers made historic investments in every level of education from child care to college. We helped family budgets and reduced student hunger through free breakfasts and lunch at school. After decades of underinvestment in higher education, we froze tuition at MinnState and made college free for families making less than \$80,000 a year.

## Increasing Protections for Workers & Families

DFLers have been focused on unrigging an economy that often seems tilted in favor of big corporations and the wealthiest among us. DFLers passed paid family and medical leave, earned sick and safe time, and increased protections for workers. A nation-leading Child Tax Credit is already working to reduce child poverty, and DFLers banned hidden, nuisance "junk" fees, and increased penalties for employers who misclassify employees to deny them protections and benefits.

## Protecting Reproductive Freedom

While Republicans in Minnesota and across the country continue to pursue extreme abortion bans and attack IVF and contraceptives, DFLers defended reproductive freedom through new protections in state law. This year, we continued to make progress by expanding insurance coverage for reproductive health care.

## Securing More Affordable & Accessible Health Care

DFLers are committed to improving our health care system. Our budget includes a Prescription Drug Affordability Board to reduce drug costs and, starting next year, caps co-pays for prescription drugs to treat diabetes, asthma, and allergies at \$25 for one month's supply. This year, we enacted significant medical debt reforms because Minnesotans struggling with illness should not also have to be saddled with unmanageable debt.

## Building Stronger Communities

Minnesotans deserve healthy, vibrant communities. Over the last two years, DFLers made historic investments in transportation, housing, and public safety. We took bold climate action — including putting our state on a pathway to 100 percent clean energy by 2040 — enacted gun violence prevention measures, and strengthened Minnesota's democratic institutions and voting rights.

