Draft correspondence to legislators:

Dear [Representative/Senator]:

I am writing to voice my strong support for expanding a current state tax credit to include private school tuition. The tax provision passed the House last year and is currently under consideration by the House-Senate Tax Conference Committee.

The state tax credit will allow parents the opportunity to have choices in education and will serve over 95,000 low-income families in Minnesota. The state needs a strong public and private education systems in order to raise student achievement and close the achievement gap.

Private schools serve low-income families in Minnesota, and have proven their effectiveness at raising student achievement. Private schools need to be a part of our effort to close the achievement gap.

Unfortunately, it is becoming more difficult for low-income parents to afford tuition to private schools. That is why we need to pass legislation to give more access to low-income families and students.

A recent survey found that nearly 70 percent of Minnesotans support tax credits and school choice for parents and students. In addition, a national survey found that 75 percent of African-American and Latino families support school choice.

Lastly, the cost of expanding the state tax credit to include tuition is affordable for the state. I urge you to consider supporting the tax credit.

Thank you for your time. I can be reached at [insert your contact information here].

Sincerely,

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