



The Honorable Erik Paulsen
127 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

November 8th, 2017

Dear Representative Paulsen,

We are writing with concerns about tax and budget policy issues being discussed right now in Congress. The Minnesota Council of Nonprofits (MCN), along with almost 200 organizations, supports building a prosperous future for all. Therefore, we support a tax code that raises the revenues required to support essential programs and make long-term investments in our communities, that shares the responsibility for funding public services equitably, and values the important partnership between nonprofits and government.

We write with concern that these priorities are missing from the current tax and budget discussions. In fact, what's on the table will require the federal government to provide less funding for programs essential to our communities, often times carried out by nonprofit organizations across the country, and would dramatically lessen federal investments that help everyday Minnesotans make ends meet and get ahead. Tax plans that would dramatically increase deficits would set in motion deeper cuts in services in future years.

We believe that these proposals undermine our shared prosperity by:

- Making deep cuts to affordable health care through Medicare and Medicaid, and cutting other essential entitlements that boost incomes and help families put food on the table and a roof over their heads;
- Reducing spending in vital programs like housing, education, transportation, arts and sciences, and other investments in the nation's economy;
- Adding to deficits, which would likely force more cuts to programs that help Minnesotans and communities thrive;
- Shifting more responsibility for funding critical public services to low- and modest-income families; and
- Changing the tax code in ways that undermine the strength of the nonprofit sector, including reducing tax incentives for charitable giving and undermining the guarantee of nonpartisanship.

We ask that as you continue to work on taxes, you focus your proposals to:

- Ensure that any tax cuts are paid for by closing tax loopholes or other responsible tax changes, in order to maintain necessary revenue to fund programs that serve our communities;
- Advance tax policies that invest in everyday Minnesotans and their families, rather than providing large tax cuts for those with the highest incomes and profitable businesses;
- Strengthen the nonprofit sector by maintaining existing incentives for charitable giving and expanding the charitable deduction to all taxpayers, not just those who itemize; and

- Protect the long tradition of nonpartisanship in 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations by preserving the Johnson Amendment.

We believe that with legislation that reflects these values, we can work together to build thriving communities on a strong foundation that comes from investment and partnership.

Thank you very much for your past and continuing partnership as we work together to serve the communities of Minnesota. We appreciate your consideration of our concerns as you develop tax and budget legislation. If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Lucero, public policy director at the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits at 651-757-3070 or rlucero@minnesotanonprofits.org.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Lucero
Public Policy Director
Minnesota Council of Nonprofits

On behalf of the following organizations:

Accountability Minnesota	Designs for Learning
Accra	East Side Neighborhood Services, Inc.
Advance Opportunities	Education MN
Alexandra House, Inc.	EMERGE Community Development
Alliance Housing Inc	Emma Norton Services
Alt Key Inc.	ESR, Inc.
American Indian Family and Children's Center	Face to Face Health and Counseling Service, Inc.
Apple Tree Dental	FOCUS Minnesota
Articulture	Frogtown Rondo Home Fund
AspireMN	Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota
Association for Nonsmokers - MN	Great River Homes, Inc.
Backus Community Center	Greater Twin Cities United Way
Ballanger Leafblad	Growth & Justice
BestPrep	Hammer Residences
Better Futures Minnesota	Happy Dancing Turtle
Bii Gii Wiin CDLF	Harvest Pack
Black Dirt Theater	Headway Emotional Health Services
Cannon River Makers	Health Access MN
Caponi Art Park	Hearth Connection
Central Minnesota Community Empowerment Organization	Hispanic Advocacy and Community Empowerment through Research (HACER)
Charities Review Council	HOME Line
Children's Defense Fund - Minnesota	HOPE Coalition
Children's Mental Health Services	Hope House of St. Croix Valley
CHUM	House of Charity
Clare Housing	House of Hope Inc
Community Involvement Programs	Humanists of Minnesota
Cornerstone	Hunger Solutions Minnesota
Council on American-Islamic Relations, Minnesota Chapter	Interfaith Outreach and Community Partners
Dads Make a Difference	ISAIAH
Data Intelligence Consultants, LLC	JEL Consulting & Ballpark Tours
	Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis

JFCS of Minneapolis
Judith Kahn and Associates, LLC
Koochiching Aging Options
KTWH LP
Lakes Center for Youth & Families
Land Stewardship Project
Laura Baker Services Association
Lifetrack Resources, Inc.
Life-Work Planning Center
Lifeworks Services, Inc.
Loan Repayment Assistance Program of Minnesota,
Helping Lawyers Help the Disadvantaged
Local Initiatives Support Corp Duluth
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) - Twin Cities
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota
Lynglomsten
Lyra Baroque Orchestra
Maplewood Area Historical Society
mcatchart, LLC
Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers
Midwest Food Connection
MIGIZI Communications
Minneapolis American Indian Center
Minneapolis College of Art and Design
Minnesota AIDS Project
Minnesota Alliance With Youth
Minnesota Association of Library Friends
Minnesota Ballet
Minnesota Children's Alliance
Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless
Minnesota Communities Caring for Children, home of
Prevent Child Abuse MN
Minnesota Connect Aphasia Now
Minnesota Council of Churches
Minnesota Elder Justice Center
Minnesota FoodShare | GMCC
Minnesota Housing Partnership
Minnesota Literacy Council
Minnesota Music Educators Association
Minnesota Nurses Association
Minnesota Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
Minnesota Recovery Connection
Mission Momentum LLC
MN Community Action Partnership
NAMI Minnesota
Neighborhood House
Next in Nonprofits
NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center, Inc.
Northstar Problem Gambling Alliance
Our Streets Minneapolis
OutFront Minnesota
People Serving People
PHASE
Pinewood-Cloquet, Inc.
Portico Healthnet
PossAbilities of Southern MN
Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council
Prepare + Prosper
Productive Alternatives

Rainbow Health Initiative
Range Transitional Housing, Inc.
REACH Together
Red Bird Chapbooks
Reif Arts Council
Restart, Inc.
Reviving the Islamic Sisterhood for Empowerment
Rice County Habitat for Humanity
Rochester Public Library Foundation
RS EDEN
Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra
Sandweiss & Associates
Scott Carver Dakota CAP Agency
Second Harvest Heartland
Second Harvest North Central Food Bank
SEIU Healthcare Minnesota
Senior Community Services
Sevants of Shelter
Simpson Housing Services
Southside Family Nurturing Center
Spark Plug Consulting
St. David's Center
St. David's Center for Child & Family Development
St. Paul Public Schools
St. Stephens Human Services
Stages Theatre Company
Sugarloaf: The North Shore Stewardship Association
SW MN Private Industry Council, Inc.
TakeAction Minnesota
The Arc Greater Twin Cities
The Arc Minnesota
The Family Partnership
The Minnesota Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities
The Sheltering Arms Foundation
The Sheridan Story
The Wagner Group, LLC
The Welcome Place
The Works Museum
Thief River Falls Area Food Shelf
Three Rivers Community Action, Inc.
Tubman
Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity
Twin Cities Pride
Twin Cities Tap Festival
Twin Rivers Council for the Arts
United Cambodian Association of MN
United Community Action Partnership
University of St. Thomas
Vail Place
VocalEssence
VSA Minnesota
WeCAN
Winona County DAC
Women's Resource Center of Winona
Women's Shelter, Inc.
WomenVenture
Working America - MN
Youth Service Bureau, Inc.
YWCA Minneapolis