

**Melissa
Hortman**
State Representative

Rep. Melissa Hortman
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Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear neighbor,

I hope you are enjoying summer. 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 2022 Legislative Session.

All session, House DFLers worked to reduce costs for families, support workers, and strengthen public safety. On May 16, Governor Walz, and the Republican leader of the Senate, and I signed a bipartisan agreement on a budget framework that would have made strong investments in families' economic security, education, health care, and public safety to address the challenges Minnesotans are facing.

Unfortunately, the session adjourned on May 23 without passing all of the budget bills. It is deeply disappointing and frustrating that Minnesota Republicans then chose to walk away from the agreement and the critical investments Minnesota needs for nursing homes, education, public safety, infrastructure, middle-class tax cuts, and much more.

We worked with Republicans in good faith to find as many agreements as possible because Minnesotans expect us to work together, deliver results, and build a better future for everyone. House DFLers remain ready to do the job we were elected to do.

Despite this disappointment, there were important accomplishments in this session, including frontline worker bonus pay, a package of mental health investments, funding to address the opioid crisis, and more.

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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2022 Legislative Report

Working to Improve People's Lives and Build a Better Future

Great Education for Our Children

All Minnesota students deserve world-class schools. That's why House DFLers worked to meet the needs of our students after a challenging couple of years. Last year's budget provided the largest increase in funding in 15 years and protected access to all-day pre-K for 4,000 preschoolers in Minnesota. This year, House DFLers proposed additional funding for education, and it was disappointing that Senate Republicans walked away from investments our students and schools need.

Securing Health Care for Minnesotans

House DFLers are committed to making health care more accessible and affordable, including reducing the cost of prescription drugs and rebuilding our health care workforce. Last year's budget took significant steps to improve public health and reduce racial disparities. This year, we distributed unprecedented amounts of money to address the opioid crisis, reduced the cost of health insurance for people who use the individual market, and passed a sweeping package of mental health investments. There's more work to do, but Republicans refused to find agreements that could further strengthen our health care system.

Reducing Costs and Supporting Workers and Families

House DFLers care deeply about the challenges Minnesotans are facing. It's getting harder and harder for workers and families to make ends meet. Our budget cut taxes for workers and small businesses most impacted by the pandemic and made significant investments in affordable child care. This year, we reached a bipartisan agreement on bonuses for the frontline workers who kept our state moving forward during the pandemic. House DFLers supported the largest tax cut in state history that would have put more money back in the pockets of seniors, families, renters, homeowners, small businesses, farmers, and more; but Republicans broke our agreement and walked away before we could complete the work of the session.

There's more work to do to build a better future, and I remain committed to finding bipartisan compromises that are in the best interests of Minnesotans.

