

Monday, January 20, 2025

Re: Challenge Grant Proposal

To Chairman Sorvaag and E & E Committee-members,

Please accept this testimony in support of the \$50 million of funding that Governor Armstrong proposed in support of the Challenge Grant Program.

An investment in education is an investment in our workforce. The cost of higher education has outpaced inflation in other areas of our economy over the past decade, so affordability is a challenge for so many students. With the Challenge Grant, donors are motivated to see their dollars matched and know that the citizens of our state will see an impressive return on investment.

I ask for your support of funding the Challenge Grant in support of Higher Education.

Respectfully,

Stacey Ackerman