

## Minnesota House Republican Caucus

February 10, 2025

The Honorable Pam Bondi United States Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

## Via electronic delivery

Dear Attorney General Bondi,

On behalf of the Republican Caucus of the Minnesota House of Representatives, we write to inform you of years of rampant unchecked fraud occurring in our state due to failed leadership by Governor Tim Walz, his agencies, and legislative Democrats. We also ask for your assistance to investigate the growing fraud in our state, which has resulted in over \$610 million in precious resources – the great majority of it federal funding for human services programs – not getting to people in need.

Democrats' refusal to show a modicum of concern about serious fraudulent activity has resulted in this disaster. As former United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota, Andrew Luger, recently said, "Minnesota has a fraud problem."

Moreover, the independent Office of the Legislative Auditor produced numerous reports over the years documenting concerns with state agency oversight and the need to have greater controls in preventing fraud, waste, and abuse. Those reports have fallen on deaf ears. In the last six years, House Democrats have not held one hearing to investigate the ballooning fraud.

House Republicans—who currently have a 67-66 majority—have established the Fraud Prevention and State Agency Oversight Committee to document and investigate the fraud, educate Minnesotans about the scope of the fraud, and implement solutions to prevent future fraud. Just days before our first hearing, where we planned to review the scope of fraud in Minnesota during Governor Walz's administration, a Minnesota Supreme Court decision halted House business and prevented us from beginning our oversight.

The Supreme Court decision led to a weekslong constitutional crisis that was only resolved on Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. As a result, the Fraud Prevention and State Agency Oversight Committee

held its first meeting today. Yet the weeks of delay have hindered our fraud prevention efforts. We therefore seek assistance from the United States Department of Justice to investigate the Walz administration's continuous inaction that is allowing this fraud to continue. Additionally, we urge the Trump Administration to move swiftly to nominate and confirm a new permanent U.S. Attorney for Minnesota to ensure their important work can continue.

Attached to this letter is a document that highlights 25 known instances of fraudulent or wasteful activity. Conservatively, this accounts for over \$610 million dollars in services that were never provided to needy Minnesotans.

We thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. The Minnesota House Republican Caucus stands ready to combat the rampant fraud in our state. We will fully cooperate with our federal partners to achieve this goal.

Respectfully,

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Representative Lisa Demuth Speaker of the House District 13A

Representative Harry Niska Majority Leader District 31A

Representative Kristin Robbins Chair, Fraud Prevention and State Agency Oversight Committee District 37A

CC: Emil Bove, Acting United States Deputy Attorney General Dorothy A. Fink, M.D., Acting Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Encl: Minnesota Fraud and Waste Case Tracker, 2019 - 2025