



Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Key Vote Alert: Vote “Yes” on HF2125 – Omnibus Tax Bill

Dear Members of the Minnesota Senate,

On behalf of Americans for Prosperity activists across Minnesota, I am writing today to urge a “Yes” vote on final passage of HF2125, the Omnibus Tax Bill, which includes important tax relief and a tax credit scholarship program that expands educational opportunities for low and middle-income students in the state.

As a “Key Vote”, Americans for Prosperity – Minnesota may include this vote in our end-of-session Legislative Scorecard that will be shared with your constituents.

Every corner of our state is filled with innovative industries, a strong workforce, top-notch institutions, and natural resources. We should be an economic powerhouse, yet, we lag behind much of the nation in many key economic indicators. For too long, Minnesota’s economic potential has been weighed down by over-taxation and irresponsible management of our ever-growing state budget. It’s time to reverse these trends.

This bill is a great step toward creating more opportunity for all Minnesotans. Allowing Minnesotans to reap the full benefit of federal tax law changes will put tax dollars back in the pockets of hardworking families and help reignite our economy. And, unlike the House budget plan, which includes new gas taxes, provider taxes, and payroll taxes alongside new licensing fees and government mandates, we commend the Senate for not raising regressive taxes on those Minnesotans who can least afford it.

Raising taxes is easy for politicians, because it’s always somebody else paying the bill. Instead of blindly throwing money at the challenges we face, let’s look at ways to reform our approach for the long-term by setting priorities and reining in spending, addressing waste and fraud rampant within state programs, and seeking out innovative ways to address the state’s challenges.

In addition to providing overdue tax relief, this bill also includes a scholarship tax credit program that will provide better educational opportunities for thousands of Minnesota students. It would enact a tax credit for donations to nonprofit scholarship granting institutions, which, in turn, would give low- and middle-income eligible students a scholarship to attend a school that best fits their unique educational needs, interests, and abilities – providing each student with the best foundation for an enriched life.

Every child in Minnesota should have access to a quality education allowing them to discover, develop, and apply their unique talents to find lifelong fulfillment and contribute to their community. This opportunity should be available to all students – regardless of income or zip code. When families are equipped with a diversity of tools and options, they can make the best decisions regarding the education of their children.

Through broad-based grassroots outreach, *Americans for Prosperity (AFP)* is driving long-term solutions to the country’s biggest problems. AFP activists engage friends and neighbors on key issues and encourage them to take an active role in building a culture of mutual benefit, where people succeed by helping one another. AFP recruits and unites activists in 35 states behind a common goal of advancing policies that will help people improve their lives.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our position on these important issues. We urge the Senate to support this bill and reject the broken status quo of increasing taxes and out of control spending. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions, need more information, or if you would like to discuss the issue further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Flohrs', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Jason Flohrs
State Director
Americans for Prosperity - Minnesota