

Melissa
Hortman
State Representative

Rep. Melissa Hortman
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Dear neighbor,

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 2023 Legislative Session.

Last November, Minnesotans entrusted DFLers with full control of state government for the first time in a decade. They were clear that they wanted to see an end to the era of gridlock in divided government. This session, DFLers focused on the issues Minnesotans across the state value and told us they cared about: investing in public education, making health care more affordable, and building an economy that works better for everyone. We also heard clearly in the election that Minnesotans wanted us to protect reproductive freedom, take action on climate change, address gun violence, and strengthen our democracy.

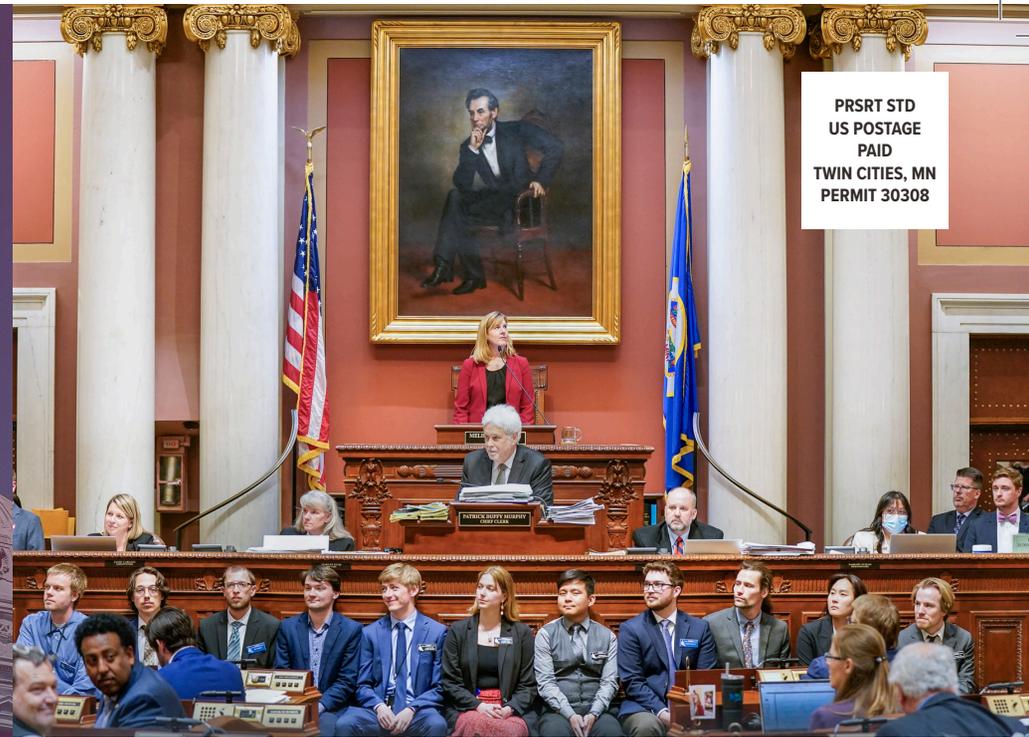
The work of the session finished on time and a new two-year state budget is in place. The good work accomplished in the 2023 Session will benefit Minnesotans for generations to come, but work remains for the next session. I look forward to continuing my work next session to build a Minnesota that works better for everyone.

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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2023 Legislative Report



Protecting Reproductive Freedom

After the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* and gutted Minnesotans' reproductive rights, we protected reproductive freedom in state law. New state laws protect doctors and patients' rights to access their full range of reproductive health care options.

Historic Investments in Education

Minnesota has long been known as the Education State, but we've been coasting on past accomplishments. This year, we made historic investments in every level of education, from early care and learning through higher education and job training. All children will now receive free breakfast and lunch at school every day. In addition, we worked to make child care more affordable, froze tuition at MinnState colleges, and made public college tuition free for families making less than \$80,000 a year.

Making Health Care More Affordable & Accessible

All Minnesotans deserve quality, affordable health care. Our budget establishes a Prescription Drug Affordability Board to reduce drug costs, and caps co-pays for prescription drugs to treat diabetes, asthma, and allergies at \$25 for one month's supply.

Improving Economic Security for Workers & Families

At a time when people feel like the economy is tilted against them, we fought for workers and families. New state laws provide paid family and medical leave and earned sick and safe time for all workers, and improved worker safety for those in warehouses, meatpacking facilities, and refineries. Our budget makes our tax system more fair, will reduce childhood poverty by 33 percent, and includes the largest tax cut in state history.

Building Stronger & Safer Communities

All Minnesotans deserve safe and vibrant communities. Our budget includes historic investments in transportation, housing, and public safety. We also enacted common-sense gun violence prevention measures like criminal background checks and red flag laws, took bold action on climate, and strengthened our democracy to ensure all eligible Minnesotans can easily register to vote and vote.

