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Dear Representative Lucero,

Thank you for presenting HF 181, regarding a new source of state aid for school districts with low general education revenue per pupil, during the Minnesota Youth Council Committee meeting on March 21st, 2017. We appreciate your willingness to present your bill to the Committee. The bill was voted on and passed with 13 votes in the affirmative and 4 votes in the negative.

Overall, the MYCC was pleased with the bill's efforts to improve equity in education by appropriating funds to schools that receive low levels of revenue per pupil. As students, we understand that the ability of a school to meet its pupils' academic needs is often correlated with the amount of funding it receives. We were glad to see your bill's effort to lower the discrepancy in funding between high-wealth and low-wealth school districts and ensure the quality of children's education is not determined by their zip codes.

Dissenting MYCC members raised concerns over the limitations and possible repercussions of the bill. Several members believed it was unnecessary for the bill to exclude charter schools from receiving disparity aid. Others were perturbed by the bill's delegation of tax money from the district in which it had been collected towards low-revenue schools.

Overall, however, HF 181 received enthusiastic support from the members of the Minnesota Youth Council Committee. We share your passion to give all children a high-quality education, so we are glad to support your bill. We hope our feedback can assist you as your bill moves forward in the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Minnesota Youth Council Committee



An Initiative of Minnesota Alliance With Youth