

## To the Families of Senator John Hoffman and House Speaker Emeritus Melissa Hortman

On behalf of the Cultural and Ethnic Communities Leadership Council, we extend our deepest sympathy and solidarity in the wake of the devastating and senseless acts of violence that caused serious injuries to Senator John Hoffman and his wife, Yvette, and killed House Speaker Emeritus Melissa Hortman and her husband Mark.

We grieve alongside all Minnesotans for the pain and trauma of this tragedy. Public service, carried out with integrity and compassion as both lawmakers have demonstrated, should never be met with such cruelty. This tragedy strikes at the heart of our democratic values and our shared vision of an inclusive, just, and safe Minnesota for all.

Senator John Hoffman has long been a respected and deeply valued member of the CECLC. His passionate and unwavering advocacy for our council’s mission—to reduce disparities and promote equity across communities—has strengthened our collective voice. His commitment to systems change and the amplification of diverse community perspectives has had meaningful impact on our work and the lives of countless Minnesotans.

Please know that the CECLC stands with you—not only in mourning, but in our firm resolve to honor the legacy of service and justice that both Senator Hoffman and Representative Hortman have represented. We remain committed to continuing the work Senator Hoffman has championed as he continues to recover, and we hold steadfast to the values House Speaker Emeritus Hortman worked to uphold.

We hold the families close in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. May you find strength in the outpouring of support and the enduring legacy of courage and compassion that defines your service.

With heartfelt sympathy and deep respect, **The Cultural and Ethnic Communities Leadership Council.**

Shawn Sorrell and Chris Green

Co-chairs, Cultural and Ethnic Communities Leadership Council