

SAMPLE EMAIL MESSAGES TO KEY LEGISLATIVE LEADERS

(For voicemail messages, just replace “Dear” with “Hi”
and keep your message to 30 seconds or less while also leaving your phone #)

Click on the links below to see sample messages later in this document. The best messages are personal but brief as lawmakers get many each day.

- [TO: SENATE EDUCATION CHAIR CHAMBERLAIN](#)
- [TO: OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE](#)
- [TO: HOUSE EDUCATION FINANCE CHAIR DAVNIE](#)
- [TO: OTHER MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION FINANCE COMMITTEE](#)
- [TO: SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION CHAIR TOMASSONI](#)
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- [TO: HOUSE HIGHER ED CHAIR BERNARDY](#)
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- [TO: SENATE MAJORITY LEADER GAZELKA](#)
- [TO: SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE HORTMAN](#)
- [TO: GOVERNOR WALZ](#)

Please consider forwarding one of your messages to the Coalition info@tocaimn.com and what it was like for you to take this action. Also, please consider forwarding any replies you receive that express a lawmaker’s support for the Increase Teachers of Color Act to info@tocaimn.com so the Coalition can keep track of that support amongst all lawmakers.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING ACTION and MAKING YOUR VOICE HEARD!

--The Coalition to Increase Teachers of Color
and American Indian Teachers in Minnesota



SAMPLE MESSAGE [TO SENATE EDUCATION CHAIR CHAMBERLAIN](#)

Subject: Increase Teachers of Color Act

Dear Chair Chamberlain,

I am a (insert your role: student, parent, teacher, etc.) and I'm very concerned about the shortage of teachers of color and American Indian teachers. Thank you for hearing SF446 in your committee.

I urge you to include the full Increase Teachers of Color Act in your omnibus bill or at least agree to include all proposed policies and investments during negotiations with the House later this session.

[Then, consider using either one of the following prompts to tell your views/story in a brief paragraph.]

We need many more teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

I am concerned about the severe shortage of teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

Thank you,

Your Name
School Name

SAMPLE MESSAGE [TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE](#)

Subject: Increase Teachers of Color Act

Dear Senator [Last Name],

I am a (insert your role: student, parent, teacher, etc.) and I urge you to strongly support including the full Increase Teachers of Color Act (SF446, Abler) in your Education Committee omnibus bill.

[Then, consider using either one of the following prompts to tell your views/story in a brief paragraph.]

We need many more teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

I am concerned about the severe shortage of teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

Thank you,

Your Name
School Name

SAMPLE MESSAGE [TO HOUSE EDUCATION FINANCE CHAIR DAVNIE](#)

Subject: Increase Teachers of Color Act

Dear Chair Davnie,

I am a (insert your role: student, parent, teacher, etc.). Thank you for giving the Increase Teachers of Color Act (HF217) a bill hearing early this session.

I strongly urge you to include all policies and full funding for this bill in your omnibus bill and in negotiations with the Senate later this session.

[Then, consider using either one of the following prompts to tell your views/story in a brief paragraph.]

We need many more teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

I am concerned about the severe shortage of teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

Thank you,

Your Name

Your School and/or City

SAMPLE MESSAGE [TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION FINANCE COMMITTEE](#)

Subject: Increase Teachers of Color Act

Dear Rep. [Last Name],

I am a (insert your role: student, parent, teacher, etc.) and I urge you to support including the full Increase Teachers of Color Act (HF217) in the Education Finance Committee omnibus bill this session.

[Then, consider using either one of the following prompts to tell your views/story in a brief paragraph.]

We need many more teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

I am concerned about the severe shortage of teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

Thank you,

Your Name

Your School and/or City

SAMPLE MESSAGE [TO SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION CHAIR TOMASSONI](#)

Subject: Increase Teachers of Color Act

Dear Chair Tomassoni,

I am a (insert your role: student, parent, teacher, etc.) and I'm very concerned about the shortage of teachers of color and American Indian teachers. Thank you for hearing SF797 in your committee.

I urge you to include the full Increase Teachers of Color Act in your omnibus bill or at least agree to include all proposed policies and investments during negotiations with the House later this session.

[Then, consider using either one of the following prompts to tell your views/story in a brief paragraph.]

We need many more teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

I am concerned about the severe shortage of teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

Thank you,

Your Name
School Name

SAMPLE MESSAGE [TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE](#)

Subject: Increase Teachers of Color Act

Dear Senator [Last Name],

I am a (insert your role: student, parent, teacher, etc.) and I urge you to strongly support including the full Increase Teachers of Color Act (SF797, Abler) in your Higher Education Committee omnibus bill.

[Then, consider using either one of the following prompts to tell your views/story in a brief paragraph.]

We need many more teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

I am concerned about the severe shortage of teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

Thank you,

Your Name
School Name

SAMPLE MESSAGE [TO HOUSE HIGHER ED CHAIR BERNARDY](#)

Subject: Increase Teachers of Color Act

Dear Chair Bernardy,

I am a (insert your role: student, parent, teacher, etc.). Thank you for giving the Increase Teachers of Color Act (HF1041, Keeler) a hearing on March 16. I urge you to strongly support all policies and full funding for this bill in your omnibus bill and in negotiations with the Senate later this session.

[Then, consider using either one of the following prompts to tell your views/story in a brief paragraph.]

We need many more teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

I am concerned about the severe shortage of teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

Thank you,

Your Name

Your School and/or City

SAMPLE MESSAGE [TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE](#)

Subject: Increase Teachers of Color Act

Dear Rep. [Last Name],

I am a (insert your role: student, parent, teacher, etc.) and I urge you to support including the full Increase Teachers of Color Act (HF217, Keeler) in the Higher Education Finance Committee omnibus bill this session.

[Then, consider using either one of the following prompts to tell your views/story in a brief paragraph.]

We need many more teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

I am concerned about the severe shortage of teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

Thank you,

Your Name

Your School and/or City

SAMPLE MESSAGE [TO SENATE MAJORITY LEADER GAZELKA](#)

Subject: Increase Teachers of Color Act

Dear Majority Leader Gazelka,

I am a (insert your role: student, parent, teacher, etc.). I urge you to recognize the bi-partisan support and strong hearings in the Senate for the Increase Teachers of Color Act's E12 bill (SF446) & Higher Ed bill (SF797) both led by Sen. Abeler.

Given the state's budget surplus and the importance of addressing the shortage of teachers of color that has negative implications for achievement gaps, society and the economy, I also urge you to support full passage of the Increase Teachers of Color Act provisions in the Senate this session as part of Education and Higher Education omnibus bills. Please make a difference with Speaker Hortman and Gov. Walz that will benefit all Minnesotans by addressing opportunity gaps and strengthening our economy.

[Then, consider using either one of the following prompts to tell your views/story in a brief paragraph.]

We need many more teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

I am concerned about the severe shortage of teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

Thank you,

Your Name

Your Local School

Your Town/City

SAMPLE MESSAGE TO SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE HORTMAN

Subject: Increase Teachers of Color Act

Dear Speaker Hortman,

I am a (insert your role: student, parent, teacher, etc.) and I'm very concerned about the severe shortage of teachers of color and Indigenous teachers.

Given the budget surplus, please demonstrate your leadership for racial equity in education and let Chair Davnie and Chair Bernardy know you prioritize support for fully funding investments proposed in the Increase Teachers of Color Act (E12 bill HF217-Hassan, & Higher Ed bill HF1041-Keeler) within their omnibus bills.

I also urge you to strongly support all policies and full funding for this essential legislation in negotiations with the Senate later this session.

[Then, consider using either one of the following prompts to tell your views/story in a brief paragraph.]

We need many more teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

I am concerned about the severe shortage of teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

Thank you,

Your Name

Your Local School

Your Town/City

SAMPLE MESSAGE [TO GOVERNOR WALZ](#)

Subject: Increase Teachers of Color Act

Dear Governor Walz,

I am a (insert your role: student, parent, teacher, etc.) and I'm very concerned about the shortage of teachers of color and American Indian teachers. Unfortunately, what you have in your own initial legislative proposals won't do enough that is needed to increase the percentage of teachers of color and Indigenous teachers in our state.

You often comment about the need to have teachers who reflect the diversity of students. While I'm glad your policy bill adopts much of the proposals in the Increase Teachers of Color Act, your budget bills don't. Given the new forecast for a budget surplus, I urge you to adjust your budget proposals and fully fund all provisions of the Increase Teachers of Color Act (HF217/SF446 and HF1041/SF797).

Please also prioritize these policies and investments in negotiations with the Senate and House later this session.

[Then, consider using either one of the following prompts to tell your views/story in a brief paragraph.]

We need many more teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

I am concerned about the severe shortage of teachers of color because... *(include personal reasons tied to your experience)*

Thank you,

Your Name

Your Local School

Your Town/City