Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, AC 20515–2308

February 3, 2025

Governor Tim Walz 130 State Capitol 75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55155

Governor Walz:

We are writing to you about concerns with the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP). After the Feeding Our Future scandal, the largest COVID-19 federal fraud scheme in the nation that exploited a children's nutrition program and \$250 million taxpayer dollars, we are disheartened to learn that more fraud at the expense of children persists under your watch. This negligence cannot continue.

As you know, CCAP is a federal-state program. While the federal government provides funding, the state oversees the program. It is your responsibility to ensure that this program helps the children and families of Minnesota.

According to the Minnesota Department of Human Services, 62 active investigations into childcare centers across the state are underway. In one circumstance, a daycare center received 95 violations between 2019 and 2023. These violations included exposure to hazardous items and insufficient record-keeping, including medical needs. Despite this child endangerment, this center received \$7.8 million in taxpayer dollars. ¹ This is no way to care for our children and taxpayers' hard-earned money.

Minnesotans deserve better leadership, and they deserve transparency. For these reasons, we request the Minnesota Department of Human Services provide us with all documents and communications regarding the 62 active investigations into childcare centers, including all violations cited and funding allocated to each center. This will allow us to provide critical oversight of your administration's questionable operation and failure of management.

Please know that this Congress and the new Trump administration are committed to eliminating fraud and abuse in our government. We implore you to join us in our mission, become a better steward of taxpayer dollars, and prioritize the children of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Pete Stauber

Member of Congress

Tom Emmer

Member of Congress

¹ https://kstp.com/kstp-news/top-news/62-investigations-underway-involving-federally-funded-minnesota-child-care-centers/

Brad Finstad Member of Congress Michelle Fischbach Member of Congress