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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AFSCME Council 5 Applauds MN House Passage of Tax Bill That Respects Workers

SOUTH SAINT PAUL - [AFSCME Council 5 Executive Director Julie Bleyhl](#) released the following statement after the Minnesota House of Representatives passed legislation that raises taxes on the wealthy and large corporations.

"No matter our race, religion, sexual orientation or zip code, Minnesotans demand a tax code that treats workers with respect, ensures the wealthy and large corporations pay their fair share, and invests in the public services millions of Minnesotans depend on and the workers who deliver them. We applaud the passage of HF 991 that would raise taxes on the wealthy who earn more than \$1 million per year, tax corporations who hide their profits overseas, and increase tax credits that go directly to tens of thousands of working families across our state.

"Corporations like Amazon, Netflix, FedEx, Nike, Xcel Energy and countless others continue to [pay \\$0 in federal taxes](#) and corporate executives and shareholders reap all of the benefits while the working-class struggle to make ends meet and pay their taxes. No worker paying even just \$1 in federal taxes should be paying more than multinational corporations who earned billions in profit. To say otherwise is a slap in the face to millions of hardworking people across our state. The same lawmakers who refuse to raise the minimum wage, want to turn our pensions into 401(k)s, refuse to pass paid family and medical leave for all, or oppose our right to collectively bargain are the ones advocating for corporations to continue cheating our tax code. AFSCME Council 5 members and Minnesotans are galvanized and ready for a new tax code that respects and invests in the working-class and ensures our state's fiscal stability going forward. HF 991 is a significant step forward towards this goal.

"We want to thank our members for their continued activism and House Tax Committee Chair Rep. Paul Marquart, House Property Tax Division Chair Rep. Cheryl Youakim, Speaker Melissa Hortman, and Majority Leader Ryan Winkler for their leadership and working with our union to bring justice and fairness back to our tax code. We call on the Minnesota Senate to swiftly pass this tax bill that invests in our united recovery.

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AFSCME Council 5 is a union of more than 43,000 working Minnesotans from across the state. We advocate for excellence in services for the public, dignity in the workplace, and opportunity and prosperity for all workers.