SENATOR MICHELLE BENSON SENATE DISTRICT 31 Deputy Majority Leader Chair, Health & Human Services Finance & Policy



**State of Minnesota** 

July 18, 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

Commissioner Pam Wheelock Minnesota Department of Human Services 540 Cedar Street 112 Administration Building St Paul, MN 55155

Dear Commissioner Wheelock:

Please accept this letter as a formal request for access to inspect data under the Minnesota Data Practices Act (Minnesota Statutes 13.03). I am requesting access to inspect any and all communications, including but not limited to emails, letters, memoranda, employment related text messages, or employment related personal emails related to:

- a) The name(s) of any outside firm consulted in 2016 to the present, to review the work culture of senior leadership staff at the Department of Human Services;
- b) Any payments and their amount related to hiring an outside consultant to review the work culture amongst senior management;
- c) Any work product related the hiring of an outside firm to work with senior leadership on work culture improvement.

The Department of Human Services must provide access to the requested data "as soon as reasonably possible" (Minn. Stat. 13.03, Subd. 3). I will accept electronic copies of this data if it is available at no additional charge. If you determine that responsive information requires withholding or redaction, please inform my office in writing and include the specific statutory authority for the withholding or redaction.

Please contact my office at your earliest convenience to discuss the time frame for completion or if you have any clarifying questions that can help expedite access to the requested data.

Sincerely,

Senator Michelle Benson