STONEWALL DFL
The LGBTQ Caucus of the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party

For immediate release

Stonewall DFL on National Defense Authorization Act Passage

We are disappointed and concerned by how Senator Klobuchar and Senator Smith voted on the NDAA, which implements hateful and harmful restrictions on basic, accepted gender-affirming healthcare for those on TRICARE who are under the age of 18. We know very well as DFLers that when we give Republicans an inch, they will take a mile, especially when it comes to the rights of transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming children. Ceding any ground on such a charged issue will only encourage further attacks on the transgender and larger LGBTQ+ community, especially as we enter a second Trump presidency.

We encourage Senators Klobuchar and Smith to attend our Annual Meeting in January to engage with our members about this vote.

Additionally, we are horrified and saddened to see the Biden administration pass the NDAA with this anti-trans poison pill. Republicans will take this and use it to continue to chip away at rights for the transgender community for years to come. Stonewall DFL will condemn all attacks on transgender rights, no matter what side of the aisle initiates and supports them.