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State of Minnesota

Sandra L. Pappas

To Whom it May Concern,

As a state senator in my 9th term, I have had the opportunity to author many bills in the State of Minnesota. During the spring session of 2016 I lent my name to piece of legislation that in effect would limit the ability of the state to contract with companies to those that were compliant with Dodd Frank in reporting to the SEC regarding the sourcing of raw materials used in the manufacturing of the companies products.

The states of Maryland and California had passed nearly identical bills in prior years, the outcome of which was to see that it cost the state virtually nothing, which too was supported in a fiscal note created for the proposed MN bill, while helping to reinforce the federal provisions of Dodd Frank. This added level of accountability from state required compliance ensured that companies would be held accountable to their sourcing of raw materials. For Minnesota this meant supporting the notion of transparency in state purchasing, a standard that can be critical in good governance.

While the 2016 Minnesota Bill successfully made it out of committee in both the House and the Senate with unanimous support and was further passed in the Senate, it did not receive a floor vote in the House. The accountability measures that Dodd Frank stands for are still of the utmost value at both a state and national level.

Personal to me, this bill also stood for taking a stand against violence against women in the Democratic Republic of Congo. I have worked in several capacities towards advancing women's rights, both at home and abroad. The measures of Dodd Frank specific to conflict minerals have helped to remove funding to the perpetrators of unimaginable violence, directed largely at women.

I strongly oppose the repeal of Dodd Frank, specifically section 1502.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra L. Pappas". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Sandy Pappas
Minnesota State Senator

