



February 21, 2022

Dear Senator Nelson,

On behalf of the Long-Term Care Imperative, a collaboration between Care Providers of Minnesota and LeadingAge Minnesota, we are writing to express support for Senate File SF 2302, to authorize Minnesota to enter into the Nurse Licensure Compact.

The LTC Imperative has been sounding the alarm bell for years regarding the critical workforce needs of our senior care sector. The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare the deep workforce shortages in our sector. We estimate that providers have nearly 23,000 open positions in nursing homes and assisted living settings. That includes an estimated 20% of unfilled Registered Nurse and Licensed Practical Nurse positions in nursing homes and assisted living settings. These shortages have had a profound impact on our entire health care system, as nearly 75% of nursing homes are limiting admissions due to workforce shortages.

SF2302 is one of the many approaches needed to address the senior care workforce crisis. We look forward to working with you on this and other permanent solutions to assist with recruitment and retention of our senior care workforce so that we can meet the needs of seniors today as well as the growing senior population in the future.

Sincerely,

Toby Pearson
Vice President of Advocacy
Care Providers of Minnesota

Matt Steele
Director of Government Affairs
LeadingAge Minnesota