

## Opposition to S.F. 2302

Dear Senator Utke and other members of the Health and Human Services Finance and Policy Committee,

As a Registered Nurse in the State of Minnesota since 1969 I urge you to oppose S.F. 2302.

Safe nursing care is crucial to the health of all residents of Minnesota.

The Minnesota Nurse Practice Act sets forth standards for licensed practice by Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses to promote and ensure safe nursing care. The Minnesota Board of Nursing already has Compacts with other states who have similar licensing requirements including having graduated from an accredited Bachelor of Science or Associate Degree nursing program or approved Licensed Practical Nurse Program and passing a similar licensing exam.

To approve Compacts with states who have less stringent licensing requirements puts the health and safety of residents of Minnesota at risk.

Despite lines 4.22,23 stating that an RN or LPN ("A nurse") "practicing in a party state must comply with the state practice laws of the state in which the client is located at the time service is provided", the provision in line 6.10 permits only the home state to have the power to take adverse action against a nurse's license. This places an excessive burden on any client/patient or family member making complaints about abuse, neglect, drug-impaired practice or other violations, requiring those complaints to be filed in another state. It is highly unlikely that the home state would uphold Minnesota's standards of practice and this would allow the nurse to continue to practice at a substandard level putting more ill and/or vulnerable persons at risk

Appropriations laid out in S.F.2302 could be more appropriately used to support enhancing access to accredited nursing education programs in Minnesota including compensation to attract more nursing educators and scholarships for persons enrolling in those programs.

Thank you for considering these serious concerns. Please oppose this dangerous bill.

Nancy M Haugen RN, MS PHN