



March 30, 2023  
Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee

Dear Chair Klein and Committee Members,

On behalf of Children's Minnesota, I am writing to offer comments on SF2744, the Senate Commerce Omnibus Bill. Children's Minnesota is the state's largest pediatric health care system, serving patients from all 87 counties and 60 percent of counties in surrounding states. Nearly half of our patients are insured through Medicaid. This Legislative Session we have expressed support for policies that recognize the critical need for children and families to have access to safe, affordable health care, including a continuum of mental health services equipped to address the current mental health crisis.

SF2744 includes important provisions that would benefit the patients and families we serve:

- Requiring commercial health plan coverage of treatment at psychiatric residential treatment facilities.
- Limiting copays for prescription drugs and related medical supplies to treat chronic diseases such as asthma and diabetes.
- Supporting our patients' ability to safely access needed medications by prohibiting health insurers and pharmacy benefit managers from requiring white bagging.

At Children's Minnesota, our vision is to be every family's essential partner in raising healthier children. As the kid experts in our community, it is our goal to improve the health and wellbeing of kids in our state. We appreciate your continued partnership as we work to collectively make sure children and families can access the care they need.

Sincerely,

Amanda Jansen, MPP  
Director of Public Policy  
Children's Minnesota