



April 11, 2023

Senator Ron Latz  
3105 Minnesota Senate Building  
95 University Ave W  
St Paul, MN 55103

**RE: SF 2909 Judiciary and Public Safety Omnibus bill**

Chair Latz,

On behalf of Hennepin Healthcare, I write to thank you for your support and inclusion of the following proposals in your omnibus bill.

As a health care system, our providers have a unique and often heartbreaking first-hand look at the devastating effects gun violence has on our communities, including the dire consequences secondary trauma has on our employees. Our Next Step program is a hospital-based violence intervention program that connects victims of violent injury to resources and support. They have served over 1,000 survivors of violent injuries. This is an issue that touches every corner of our state. I urge you to include the legislative language from S.F. 1116 and S.F. 1117 in the omnibus bill to accompany the appropriations included for background checks and extreme risk protection orders, respectively, and help prevent gun violence in our communities.

Reimbursing sexual assault exam costs will greatly reduce administrative burdens for our teams and increase efficiency, allowing us to focus on caring for survivors of sexual assault, not on paperwork in an inefficient and fragmented system. In 2022, the Hennepin Healthcare Assault Response Team (HART) completed 743 sexual assault exams. This team is specially trained to provide trauma-informed medical care and support for individuals who have experienced sexual assault, human trafficking or sexual exploitation, intimate partner violence, and child sexual abuse.

We sincerely appreciate your support on these important proposals. We understand the difficult decisions you must make due to the many competing priorities to improve Minnesota for all residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jennifer DeCubellis".

Jennifer DeCubellis  
Chief Executive Officer  
Hennepin Healthcare System

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