



January 17, 2023

Sen. Melissa Wiklund
2107 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN, 55155

Chair Wiklund:

Planned Parenthood North Central States (PPNCS) provides a full range of reproductive health care services to Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota at 28 health centers, serving nearly 100,000 patients in the fiscal year 2022. We are proud to offer abortion care where it is legal, as it's essential reproductive health care. To protect the right to abortion in Minnesota, Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota Action Fund strongly supports SF70 to repeal abortion restrictions currently on the books.

Founded in 1992, the Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota Action Fund is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit organization. As the advocacy and electoral arm of PPNCS, we work with supporters of all parties to defend and increase access to family planning services, fact based, medically accurate sexuality education, and abortion access.

In June 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the 1973 landmark case *Roe v. Wade* eliminating the federal right to abortion. This decision was a shattering blow to the right to access abortion in the United States, leaving even more people struggling to access the essential health care they need. All Minnesotans should be free to make the reproductive health care decisions that are right for them.

Since *Roe* was overturned, there has been a 13% increase in patients coming to PPNCS for abortion care, and a 40% increase in second term abortions in our region. In order to support all people who might need an abortion, whether at Planned Parenthood or anywhere else, it is necessary to remove all unjust and unconstitutional anti-abortion laws off the books and out of Minnesota's legislative code forever – restoring abortion rights and improving access for everyone throughout the state of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Tim Stanley
Executive Director