



Senator Melissa Wiklund, Chair
Senate Health and Human Services Committee
2107 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Wiklund and Members of the Senate HHS Committee,

As a member of the State Community Health Advisory Committee (SCHSAC) and as an Olmsted County Commissioner, I respectfully encourage you to confirm Dr. Brooke Cunningham's appointment as the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Health.

A strong state-local partnership is essential as we work together to maximize the health of all Minnesotans while reducing the troubling health disparities in our state. Dr. Cunningham's skills, experience and focus on collaboration will be invaluable as we advance that work at both the state and local level.

Dr. Cunningham's impressive combination of advanced education and real-world work experience give her a unique perspective on the pressing public health issues facing Minnesotans. Her academic training has instilled in her an awareness of the importance of evidence-based solutions, and her work as an internist providing care to Minnesotans gives her practical insights into the daily challenges facing Minnesotans and their communities. Since joining MDH last year, she has shown deep respect for mission of advancing the health of all Minnesotans and strong awareness of the importance of working in partnership with those the department is seeking to serve.

I encourage members of the Senate to support her confirmation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheila Kiscaden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sheila Kiscaden
SCHSAC Chair 2020-2022
Olmsted County Commissioner, District 6
