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February 8, 2023

Dear Senate Health and Human Services Committee,

On behalf of the more than 3100 members of the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians, we encourage you to support SF 164. SF 164 would allow for coverage and reimbursement of postpartum long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) prior to hospital discharge.

As family physicians, we advocate for our patients to have autonomy and choice regarding their reproductive health care. As one important option, LARC is a highly effective reversible contraception and has high levels of patient satisfaction. Many patients consider this and other contraceptive options in the post-partum stage and it can be a natural time for placement prior to leaving the hospital after delivery. The current lack of reimbursement creates a barrier for patients and a frustration for health care providers.

Thank you for considering support of SF 164. We look forward to engaging with you and are appreciative of our shared commitment to the health of Minnesotans.

Sincerely,

Alex Vosooney, MD President, MAFP