

February 27, 2023

Minnesota State Legislature
Minnesota State Capitol,
75 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard
St Paul, MN 55155

Re: support for SF 2105

To: Sen. Melissa H. Wiklund, Chair
Health and Human Services Committee

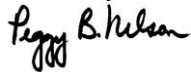
Madam Chair and Committee Members:

I write with strong support for SF 2105, which would mandate health insurance companies to cover hearing aids for all Minnesotans. This is a strong bill with wide support from consumers and professionals alike.

Untreated hearing loss is a major cause of social isolation, depression, and health concerns among Minnesota seniors. Treatment of hearing loss with hearing aids has been shown to reduce those negative outcomes. Only about one-third of seniors who need hearing aids are wearing them! The COST of hearing aids is a major barrier to their adoption. Requiring insurance companies to cover the cost of hearing aids will have a widespread positive effect on the quality of life of Minnesota citizens.

I hope you will support HF 1480!

Sincerely,



Peggy Nelson, Ph.D., CCC-A
Professor of Audiology