



March 14, 2023

Professional Distinction

Personal Dignity

Patient Advocacy

Senator Melissa Wiklund, Chair
Senate Health and Human Services Committee
Minnesota Senate
95 University Ave. W.
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Chair Wiklund and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

With over 22,000 members, the Minnesota Nurses Association (MNA) is the leading organization representing professional nursing across Minnesota. As leaders in labor and health care, we are a voice for hospital nurses around the state on issues related to the health and well-being of the public.

We want to thank Chair Wiklund for authoring S.F. 1681, as amended, which would establish new regulations to prevent massive, profit-driven conglomerates outside of Minnesota from taking over the state healthcare system. Amongst other positives, there are several items in the bill that MNA is particularly supportive of:

- Parameters established to ensure transactions will not lead to negative impacts as it relates to affordability, accessibility, and quality of healthcare services – including safeguards against consolidation that would contribute to inequities or make it harder for Minnesota’s rural and urban communities to access the care they need; and
- Language that would explicitly prohibit transactions that would create a monopoly or monopsony;
- Prohibiting CEOs, board members, or other healthcare entity executives from personally profiting off a transaction;
- Extending the moratorium on HMO conversion.

While MNA supports this proposed legislation, we would also like to encourage the Legislature to consider adopting additional language within this legislation to:

- Require entities involved in a transaction to honor existing worker collective bargaining agreements that are currently in place;
- More explicitly protect access to reproductive healthcare services, including abortion services, as well as gender-affirming care.

Minnesota statutes need updating in order to meet the current moment, and ongoing crisis, in healthcare. As such, MNA strongly supports S.F. 1681, as amended.

345 Randolph Avenue
Suite 200
St. Paul, MN 55102
Tel: 651.414.2800
800.536.4662
Fax: 651.695.7000
Email: mnnurses@mnnurses.org
Web: www.mnnurses.org



AFL-CIO

Shannon Cunningham
Director of Governmental and Community Relations
Minnesota Nurses Association