



February 27, 2023

Chair 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. Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota Action Fund strongly supports SF165, a bill that protects patients in Minnesota, coming to Minnesota from a state that bans abortions, and doctors who practice in Minnesota or outside of Minnesota.

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.

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. PPNCS provides 70% of all abortions in Minnesota. Our medical professionals deserve to provide the best care possible to their patients without legal repercussions or unscientific governing laws. In order to support all people who might need an abortion, whether at Planned Parenthood or anywhere else, SF165 makes it clear that abortion patients and doctors will be protected in Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Tim Stanley
Executive Director