

705 Raymond Ave. #100 Saint Paul, Minnesota 55114 Tel: (651) 641-6199 www.TakeActionMinnesota.org

RE: Support for S.F. 1771

March 22, 2023

Chair Wiklund and committee members,

TakeAction Minnesota is a grassroots organization with over 15 years of experience working on state healthcare issues from Medicaid expansion to prescription drug costs. We are writing in support of S.F. 1771.

Our current healthcare system is less a system than a collection of healthcare sectors between which we make people shuffle. Since our organization's founding, we have engaged thousands of Minnesotans to better understand and advocate for their healthcare needs. Together we have worked to protect and strengthen public health care programs, support the Affordable Care Act and other efforts to make the private insurance market more equitable, accountable, and affordable, and to give more people the opportunity to buy-in to public health care programs. More affordable, simpler, equitable access to healthcare has been, and remains, one of the top concerns of the people we work with around the state.

That is why we support S.F. 1771's study of the costs and outcomes of our current healthcare financing "system" compared to the projected costs and outcomes of a universal health care financing system. This kind of holistic approach is an important step toward accounting for all the fragmented ways we pay for health care as well as all of the people that we both include and leave out so that we can make the best decisions about how to move forward.

We urge you to support S.F. 1771.

Sincerely,

Robert Haider

**Legislative Director**