



TO: Senate Higher Education Committee

RE: Bill S.F. 2075

FROM: Laura Probst
Library Director
Concordia College
Moorhead, MN

I write in support of S.F. 2075 to invest in Minitex Online Library Health and Nursing Resources. The students at Concordia College, along with our fellow libraries in the Moorhead area, have long benefited from the statewide subscription program operated by Minitex. These shared resources provide a common platform of resources that our library could not afford on its own, and that are of direct support to our students' learning. Having this common platform across the state's school, college, and public libraries provides continuity from K-12 learning through college and into adulthood.

At Concordia, as at other Minnesota institutions, we are increasing our investment in nursing and health care programs to meet the growing demands of the health care industry. We recently expanded our accelerated nursing program to provide a path for college graduates to complete RN licensure in twelve months. With an expansion of Minitex state-wide funding for nursing and health resources, Concordia will be able to leverage our own resources to complement this state investment. Nursing and health care learning and research resources are expensive and these resources are not openly available on the Internet. Access to a core collection of current, evidence-based, peer-reviewed research is an essential component of quality nursing education programs across the state. This investment will help Concordia, and all nursing programs across the state, educate and train the professional health care work force that Minnesota and its communities need.