



March 10, 2023

Minnesota State Senate
Higher Education Committee
2023 - 2024 Biennium Ninety-third Legislature
Re: Minitex funding as part of S.F. 2075

Dear Senator Omar Fateh, Chair, and Senate Higher Education Committee Members:

I am writing in support of the full funding of Minitex as part of S.F. 2075. As an information and resource sharing program of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education and the University of Minnesota Libraries, Minitex is one of the most efficient and cost-effective programs in our state. Any financial support for Minitex promises a significant return on investment.

More specifically, the funding request for this year will support statewide access to nursing and health databases. In addition to supporting nursing programs at a time of [urgent need](#), these resources also benefit students who plan to pursue other health-related professions. Going even further, these databases provide timely and accurate medical information to any Minnesota citizen who may be facing a personal health crisis or caring for a loved one who is ill.

As the library chairperson at Gustavus Adolphus College, I rely on the cooperative purchasing negotiated by Minitex to make my (ever shrinking) budget dollars stretch further. As a member of the Saint Peter Public Library Board, I can attest to the value that Minitex databases bring to the people in my community. As an individual, I value how libraries and programs like Minitex are cultural and social infrastructure. Just like plumbing or roads, folks interact with these resources every day, but don't always see it. Every community needs these resources and state funding is essential. I appreciate your continued support for Minitex through S.F. 2075. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle Twait".

Michelle L. Twait
Professor & Library Chairperson

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