



Members of the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee,

OutFront Minnesota is our state's largest LGBTQ+ advocacy organization, advancing equity in Minnesota for more than 35 years. On behalf of our organization and community we offer our support for SF70.

Minnesota has a long and proud history of protecting the privacy and bodily autonomy of the people of our state. From the legislature to the courts to the ballot box; Minnesota has affirmed these values time and time again, ensuring that Minnesotans can make critical decisions about their bodies and lives. Today we have an opportunity to reaffirm those values - but just as crucially, we have the chance to clean up Minnesota's books.

This bill seeks to repeal a suite of laws - many that have been ruled unconstitutional within our state. In conversations across the state, Minnesotans have expressed their surprise that our state still has an anti-sodomy statute - which was found to be unconstitutional under our state's constitution in *Doe v. Ventura* (2001) and *Devescovi v. Ventura* (2002). Despite these rulings and the 2003 federal decision in *Lawrence v. Texas* this statute is a shameful reminder - particularly for members of our state's LGBTQ+ community - of the ways in which our private lives have been subject to scrutiny and criminalization. While this statute is no longer enforceable in the state of Minnesota, there is a renewed urgency to repealing this language. In the wake of the *Dobbs* ruling and concerns that some of these fundamental rights to privacy may be relitigated.

Each of these laws being considered for repeal tells a different story, but they share a common thread - they are no longer serving our state. By repealing these laws, our state will reaffirm our commitments to privacy and bodily autonomy for all Minnesotans. This is an opportunity to affirm our values, to provide clarity to the people of our state, and to build trust in our government and its processes.

We support this important effort and ask you to support SF70.

Sincerely,

Kat Rohn
Executive Director
OutFront Minnesota