

Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of All Minnesotans

April 18, 2024

The Honorable John Marty Chair, Senate Finance Committee 95 University Avenue W. Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3235 St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Marty and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to you today to express my appreciation for the inclusion of funding for the Administration's public health priorities in the Senate's Agriculture, Broadband, and Rural Development Omnibus bill (SF 3955). I also appreciate the hard work that both the Agriculture and Finance Committees, along with your staff, have put into creating this bill and what you are working to accomplish with limited funding. I greatly appreciate your efforts to partially fund the Governor's proposal to addressing the public health impact of nitrate contamination in private wells in southeast Minnesota.

While additional funding will be needed to address this challenge, the Minnesota Department of Health looks forward to working with you and your Senate colleagues to find creative solutions to this issue.

Sincerely,

Brooke Cunningham, MD, PhD

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Commissioner of Health

Cc: Senator Aric Putnam

Chair, Senate Agriculture, Broadband, and Rural Development Committee