



March 12, 2024

Minnesota Senate  
Committee on Health and Human Services  
SF 4444 (Port)

Dear Committee Members,

The Minnesota Business Partnership is a membership organization comprised of the top business leaders from Minnesota's largest employers, employing almost half a million workers across the state. Health care availability, access, and equity are incredibly important to our members, and I want to express our concerns regarding SF 4444.

Ensuring the safety and well-being of patients is the top priority for Minnesota hospitals. Hospitals are already short-staffed and fewer individuals are training to enter the health care workforce. Allowing a nurse to decline a patient care assignment based on professional judgement raises serious concerns on health equity and the treatment of patients with conditions such as a mental illness or substance abuse issues. This could adversely affect patients and is an improper interference with a hospital's role to determine their own patient and staff needs. This also interferes with the chain-of-command reporting process hospitals already have in place where a nurse who feels they need additional help can request it.

Our shared goal is for patients to have access to the highest quality of care possible. We look forward to working together to find solutions that help solve our health care workforce shortage without impacting the quality and availability of patient care.

Sincerely,

Abby Loesch  
Health Policy Director  
Minnesota Business Partnership