



March 20th, 2024

Professional Distinction

Personal Dignity

Patient Advocacy

Chair Wiklund

MN Senate Health and Human Services Committee

Minnesota Senate Building

95 University Ave W, St Paul, MN 55103

Saint Paul, MN 55155

Chair Wiklund and committee members,

With 22,000 members, the Minnesota Nurses Association (MNA) is the leading voice for professional nursing in the State of Minnesota. As leaders in labor and health care, we are a voice for frontline hospital nurses around the state who strongly support evidence-based health policy that enables patients to access healthcare, including reproductive healthcare. We thank Senator Mann for your important work on leading S.F. 3967.

We know that most Minnesotans support access to full reproductive healthcare options and for individuals to have autonomy over medical decisions affecting them. MNA's own stance reflects support of this position as well. Unfortunately, there are many laws in place that prevent full access to healthcare and the overturning of Roe v. Wade led to a flood of cruel and harmful laws attacking not only abortion rights. MNA is proud to see the work that the Minnesota legislature completed last year and we applaud the continued work to ensure everyone has access to the full scope of healthcare services, including abortion care.

Patients should not have to face financial repercussions for accessing abortion care nor should providers struggle through a mess of complicated funding options and barriers to receiving payment. Healthcare should be affordable and accessible. S.F. 3967 is an important step toward changing this and ensuring more people can access the care they need.

Nurses see the results of these policies that restrict access regularly in their own profession. Barriers often result in more serious healthcare issues which burden our already understaffed emergency departments and hospitals. It's important to provide coverage for people of all economic status.

Now is the time for Minnesota to remove these barriers to care and ensure that we continue to be a leader in providing equitable healthcare, access, and support for those in need. For the health, safety, and economic well-being of patients and nurses across the state, we urge you to support S.F. 3967.

Thank you,

Shannon M. Cunningham

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