



March 5, 2025

RE: SF 205, SF 1054, SF 1085, SF 974

Chair Klein and Members of the Senate Commerce Committee:

On behalf of the Health Plan Partnership of Minnesota (HPPM), we are writing with concerns regarding Senate Files 205, 1054, 1085, and 974.

While HPPM understands the desire for the state to mandate coverage of certain medical treatments, we believe this discussion would be incomplete without the Legislature also considering mandates drive up premium costs for patients. In the last two years alone, an additional \$135 million in mandates were passed by the Legislature on Minnesota's health plans, and Minnesota now has the second highest number of state mandates in the country. This added cost on the state and consumers should be considered when discussing the numerous health mandate bills currently introduced.

In addition to the topic of health mandates, the issue of prior authorization has become a much-discussed policy in the Legislature. HPPM believes additional attention and discussion should occur on the benefits that prior authorization provides for patients and the entire health care system. Prior authorization is a mechanism to help get the patient the direct care they need in a timely manner, directing the patient towards evidence-based treatments, improving quality of care, and reducing costs by avoiding unnecessary care. Prior authorization has also been proven to reduce negative medical drug interactions.

We thank you for your consideration of our concerns as you hear these bills.

Sincerely,

Stephen Rubis