



Metro Minnesota Council on Graduate Medical Education

420 Delaware Street SE, MMC293

Minneapolis, MN 55455

612-747-8480

www.MMCGMEServices.org

March 18, 2025

Re: MDH Recommendations for Health Care Workforce Advisory Council

Dear Chair Wiklund,

On behalf of the Metro Minnesota Council on Graduate Medical Education (“MMCGME”), I am providing comments on the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) January 2025 recommendations for legislative language to create a Health Care Workforce Advisory Council, as proposed in **SF 2322**.

MMCGME represents a coalition of Minnesota’s teaching hospitals and graduate medical education programs, including Hennepin Healthcare, HealthPartners, mHealth Fairview, the University of Minnesota, the Minneapolis VA Health Care System, Essentia, CentraCare, Allina Health System and Children’s Minnesota amongst other members. Collectively, we provide 61 percent of Minnesota’s physician residency and advanced practice professional training.

In general, we are in full agreement with the MDH recommendations from the 2024 Session, and the establishment of a Health Care Workforce Advisory Council. The creation of such a Council in permanent law is a necessary and important addition to the work of training and sustaining future generations of health care providers and professionals.

However, we do have a specific concern with the membership recommended by MDH and this legislation. On lines 2.21 to 2.26 of the bill, the Governor’s 10 appointees are those who “have expertise regarding the council’s priorities” and “demonstrate a commitment to the council’s broader charge, proven experience in addressing health care workforce needs, and subject matter expertise that benefit the council’s priorities.”

We would respectfully request that at least 3 appointees be selected from either the teaching staff and/or the leadership of our State’s numerous teaching hospitals. We also recommend that an appointee be a resident or a physician who recently completed residency. We also recommend that the Commissioner of Human Services or a designee be on the Council. The Council’s work cannot be completed without understanding our Medicaid programs and payments.

We appreciate your consideration of this feedback.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly Frisch".

Kelly Frisch, MD

Board Chair, Metro Minnesota Council on Graduate Medical Education

cc: Rep. Backer; Rep. Bierman; Senator Utke

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS:

Allina Health Services

Hennepin Healthcare

HealthPartners

Veteran’s Administration Medical Center, Minneapolis

Children’s Hospitals & Clinics of Minnesota

M Health Fairview

University of Minnesota Medical School