

April 1, 2025

Chair Hoffman and Members of the Senate Human Services Committee,

We are writing in support of your inclusion of SF 3006 in the Human Services Policy Omnibus bill. Congregate care facilities provide valuable services and a place to call home for many of our most vulnerable in the community. Ensuring the health and safety of the patients/residents, both in terms of the property itself and the care they are provided is of utmost importance.

The concept of integrating congregate care facilities and their residents into community is absolutely the right goal. The reality is, this goal has not been realized, and these facilities have concentrated in a small number of communities rather than integrated throughout the state. The high concentrations of congregate care facilities within select geographic areas has created real challenges for patients and hardships for those communities where they have chosen to locate. As a result of this concentration and the rapid growth in total numbers of these facilities in recent years, many of our communities are seeing roughly one in ten police and fire calls going to these locations, despite only accounting for less than two percent of all housing units. The financial and public safety staff burden is not sustainable.

Today, based on state law, cities of the first class, Duluth, Minneapolis, Rochester, and St. Paul, have distancing provisions for the location of certain types of congregate care facilities. Our request is for these provisions to be extended to all communities in Minnesota, which SF 3006 would accomplish.


Thank you again for your support of including the language from SF 3006 in the Human Services Policy Omnibus bill.



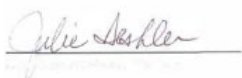
Hollies Winston  
Mayor of Brooklyn Park



April Graves  
Mayor of Brooklyn Center



Kari Niedfeldt-Thomas  
Mayor of New Brighton



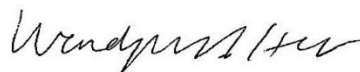
Julie Deshler  
Mayor of Crystal



John Elder  
Mayor of New Hope



Brad Sutton  
Mayor of Robbinsdale



Wendy Webster  
Mayor of St. Anthony