



March 19, 2025

Senate Labor Committee
1100 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair McEwen,

The Minnesota AFL-CIO supports SF 1518 for a \$1 million appropriation for the Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board to grants to training organizations. While union workers benefit from representation, non-union workers have few places to turn for education and support. SF 1518 will allow workers to get certified worker training.

Live, interactive training by an organization that is committed to workers' rights is the best way to ensure that workers understand their rights and benefits. During such training, workers have the opportunity to ask questions and receive information in an understandable, culturally affirming way. To highlight, again, SF 1518 provides funding to support certified organizations to train workers.

The legislature created the Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board as a way to address staffing challenges in long-term care facilities – challenges which can lead to substandard care and risk the wellbeing of vulnerable residents. If nursing home workers are not educated and empowered to improve their working conditions, the cycle of turnover and understaffing will continue, and residents will pay the price.

Again, the Minnesota AFL-CIO supports SF 1518. Please contact us with any questions.

In Solidarity,

Bernie Burnham
President

Brad Lehto
Secretary-Treasurer

