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RE: SUPPORT OF SF2775- QUALITY PATIENT CARE ACT

Dear Senator McEwen and members of the Senate Labor Committee,

AFSCME Council 65 represents 14,000 public service workers across greater Minnesota. Our members work in cities, counties, schools, and hospitals providing the vital services that make our communities safe, vibrant, and healthy.

Our members in healthcare- registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs) and certified nursing assistants (CNAs)- know that appropriate staffing levels are integral to keeping both patients and workers safe. It prevents burnout, reduces mistakes, and improves overall workplace well-being. That is why we enthusiastically support SF2775, the Quality Patient Care Act.

We appreciate that this bill not only creates a healthier environment for registered nurses, but protections are extended to other direct-care nursing staff. No one should have to face retaliation for raising concerns about dangerous staffing levels. The provisions in this bill will help our members, who are often overburdened by poor provider to patient ratios, stay on the job.

The Quality Patient Care Act prioritizes patient health and safety by making sure our direct-care professionals are protected at work. Because of this, AFSCME 65 is proud to support SF2775. Please join us in supporting this bill.

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