Planned Parenthood®
Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota Action Fund

March 4, 2026

Senator Matt Klein
Minnesota Senate Building, Room 2105
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Chair Klein:

Early detection and treatment of precancerous cells and cervical cancer through preventive services significantly improves survival rates and reduces long-term treatment costs. This is why Planned Parenthood Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota Action Fund (PPMNSAF) strongly supports SF3716.

PPMNSAF is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit organization that operates as the advocacy and electoral arm of Planned Parenthood North Central States (PPNCS). PPNCS provides care in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota at 15 health centers, serving over 90,000 patients in fiscal year 2025. They are proud to offer a full range of sexual and reproductive health care including Pap tests, HPV tests, colposcopies, and Loop Electrosurgical Excision Procedures (LEEP).

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) already requires that cervical cancer screenings, such as Pap and HPV tests, be covered without any cost-sharing. A Pap test can detect abnormal cells on the cervix that could lead to cervical cancer. If a patient has an unclear or abnormal Pap test result, a provider may want to do a colposcopy which looks more closely at the cervix to see if there are precancerous cells. Unfortunately, the ACA does not require coverage without cost-sharing for colposcopies. This means that patients may forego this service after an abnormal Pap, ultimately leading to delays in diagnosis and treatment of cervical cancer—a very treatable cancer, especially when caught early.

While Minnesota outperforms much of the nation on cervical cancer rates, disparities persist. Minnesotans of color are more likely to be diagnosed at a later stage. It is crucial we do everything in our power to make sure our health care system supports all Minnesotans—not just those with means. This is why we urge you to support SF3716.
Sincerely,

Tim Stanley
Executive Director