

T&S Traverse des Sioux Library Cooperative

To: House Higher Education and Policy Committee

From: Ann Hokanson

Re: HF 2073, MINITEX funding

March 15, 2023

Dear Committee Members:

HF 2073 includes funding for MINITEX, an essential part of the state's information and library system for all kinds of libraries, including public.

MINITEX is requesting an increase in funding so they can make important nursing and health databases available statewide.

Centralized database purchasing is very cost-effective and equitable. The increase will fund health information. Health information needs to be available to health professionals, students, and the public regardless of in which part of Minnesota they reside. When academic institutions are forced to purchase databases individually, as is currently done, costs are higher, access is less, and access is not available to every potential user.

Please retain this necessary and wise funding for Mintex in the bill as you deliberate.

Sincerely,

Ann Hokanson
Executive Director