



Written Testimony in Support of HF 11

January 26, 2021

Representative Tina Liebling
Chair, Health Policy and Finance Committee Minnesota State House
477 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Liebling and Honorable Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity for COPAL to provide testimony in favor of HF 11. COPAL believes that this bill would have a resounding impact on the Latinx and immigrant communities of Minnesota.

Latinx Minnesotans face several serious health disparities that lower life expectancy and quality of life. This especially affects those who are undocumented and do not have access to social programs and benefits. Many of these serious health disparities can be linked to lack of access to basic preventive services and screenings. The Census Bureau reported that 49%, less than half, of Latinos had private health insurance coverage compared to 75% for non-Hispanic Whites (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services).

COPAL supports the HF 11 MinnesotaCare Expansion because the expansion of coverage provides opportunity for the improved health of the Latinx community. It would even include undocumented families who pay taxes to fund these very health programs and seldomly benefit. But most importantly, it would address the growing number of underinsured and uninsured Minnesotans.

During and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important for every Minnesotan to have full health care coverage that is truly affordable.

Sincerely,
Marco A. Hernandez
Public Policy Director
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