

March 15, 2016

To: Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Housing Committee

On behalf of Sanford Health, I would like to offer our support of S.F. 37 that would license genetic counselors. In Minnesota, Sanford Health is present in over 45 rural communities, operates 17 hospitals and has 27,000 employees. We believe this bill is an important one that serves the public's interest by helping individuals identify adequately trained genetic counselors. The bill protects the public from poor or poorly trained genetic counselors and ensures robust educational requirements. It also provides an avenue of oversight for the profession.

At Sanford Health, we employ 17 genetic counselors in 4 states, including Minnesota. We value the work that they do and recognize them as health care professionals with specialized graduate degrees and training that is invaluable to our organization. They provide expertise in clinical genetics to our physicians and our patients, they communicate with patients and their healthcare providers on matters of clinical genetics and the complexities of genetic testing, and they provide genetic counseling in accordance with professional values and ethics.

We believe that S.F. 37 adequately defines the scope of practice of a genetic counselor, establishes continuing educational requirements, and establishes that current healthcare professionals practicing within their scope of practice will not be adversely affected. We urge support of this bill.

Sincerely,



Tim Rave  
Enterprise Vice President

March 15, 2016

To: Members of the House Health and Human Services Reform Committee

On behalf of Sanford Health, I would like to offer our support of H.F. 978 that would license genetic counselors. In Minnesota, Sanford Health is present in over 45 rural communities, operates 17 hospitals and has 27,000 employees. We believe this bill is an important one that serves the public's interest by helping individuals identify adequately trained genetic counselors. The bill protects the public from poor or poorly trained genetic counselors and ensures robust educational requirements. It also provides an avenue of oversight for the profession.

At Sanford Health, we employ 17 genetic counselors in 4 states, including Minnesota. We value the work that they do and recognize them as health care professionals with specialized graduate degrees and training that is invaluable to our organization. They provide expertise in clinical genetics to our physicians and our patients, they communicate with patients and their healthcare providers on matters of clinical genetics and the complexities of genetic testing, and they provide genetic counseling in accordance with professional values and ethics.

We believe that H.F. 978 adequately defines the scope of practice of a genetic counselor, establishes continuing educational requirements, and establishes that current healthcare professionals practicing within their scope of practice will not be adversely affected. We urge support of this bill.

Sincerely,



Tim Rave  
Enterprise Vice President