



May 5, 2021

Dear Conferees:

HealthPartners seeks to deliver on the Triple Aim's goals of affordability, population health and patient experience for our more than 1.8 million members and 1.2 million patients. It is with these goals in mind that we provide this feedback on the proposals included in HF2128.

- We are very appreciative for the inclusion of 45 new bed licenses for Regions Hospital in both bills. Capacity is greatly needed at Regions as the East Metro's only Level 1 Trauma Center and the statutorily-designated charity care provider for Ramsey County. The new licenses will allow Regions to quickly add 20 new inpatient mental health beds to its existing 100 bed facility this year. Please adopt the Senate language on Regions bed licenses which was heard in both the House and Senate with strong bipartisan and community support and no opposition.
- Thank you for the inclusion in both bills of the provisions to improve coverage for state public program members. Both the extended postpartum coverage and the restoration of the periodontal benefit will improve health outcomes and improve access to needed care for these patients.
- As the top charity care provider in the East Metro, HealthPartners supports the Senate language contained in Article 21, Section 3 (lines 834.33-835.10) that studies how the use of the revenue recapture program impacts hospitals' ability to provide uncompensated care. Revenue recapture and uncompensated care are issues that require more comprehensive solutions. The House language that links the use of new bed licenses for Regions to the use of revenue recapture will not address the concerns raised about this program that is used by many entities across the state. It will simply delay Regions' ability to expand access to much needed services in our community.
- As an integrated care organization we know the importance of coordination of care and coverage to quality, access and patient experience. For this reason we are concerned that the House proposal to remove administration of dental, non-medical emergency transportation (NEMT), and pharmacy services from managed care decreases this coordination.
- We support the goals of streamlining administration and transparency for Medicaid dental providers that can be achieved with the Senate language contained in Article 1, Sections 24 and Section 40. We oppose the House language in Article 1, Section 48 (line 70.8) that reduces Critical Access Dental funding to HealthPartners clinics that serve tens of thousands of patients on Medicaid and MinnesotaCare annually.

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Reducing the amount of clinics that provide care to these patients goes against the goals of improving population health and patient experience.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. We look forward to meeting with you to discuss these provisions in more detail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Cox".

Barbara Cox, Sr. Director  
HealthPartners Government Relations