



March 28, 2023

House Health Finance and Policy

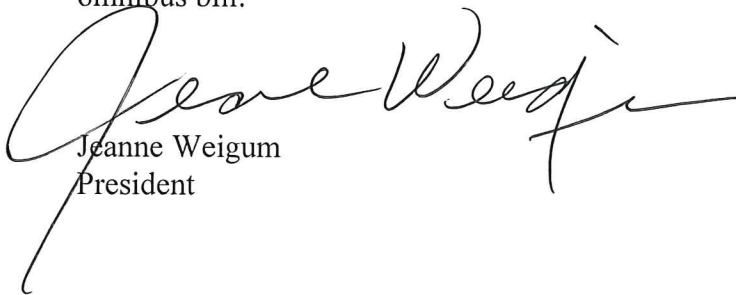
RE: HF2930

Dear Chair Liebling and Committee Members:

The Association for Nonsmokers - MN writes in support for two tobacco bills which are in the Omnibus Health bill:

- HF1574 (Bierman) This language (Article 1, Sections 8, 20, and 27) ensures Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare enrollees receive comprehensive tobacco cessation treatment benefits without barriers and expands the types of providers that can be reimbursed for providing tobacco treatment counseling.
- HF2422 (Her) This language (Article 3, Sections 3 and 72) dedicates potential funds from the JUUL lawsuit to youth tobacco prevention, help those addicted to commercial tobacco quit, and address tobacco-related health disparities. This provision is especially important because in other states and in Minnesota JUUL is making the argument that no financial responsibility lies with them. They argue that Minnesota collects vast amounts of money from tobacco taxes and the previous tobacco settlement, and spends almost nothing on prevention. **Their argument is that it is the state's own fault that the money was not spent to prevent JUUL from addicting our kids.** We can take that argument away from them by dedicating any of the JUUL litigation money to nicotine prevention.

Thank you for including these important public health policies in your omnibus bill. We will support your efforts in the weeks ahead to ensure this language is included in any final health omnibus bill.



Jeanne Weigum  
President