



March 28, 2023

The Honorable Tina Liebling
Chair, House Committee on Health Finance and Policy
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard
State Office Building, Room 447
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Liebling:

On behalf of Red River Women's Clinic, I strongly urge you to support a 50% increase in the Medical Assistance reimbursement rate for abortion services in your Health budget.

Red River Women's Clinic was the only abortion provider in the state of North Dakota for over 20 years. After the fall of Roe v Wade in June of 2022, we worked diligently to identify, locate and purchase property just across the Red River in Moorhead, Minnesota due to the looming trigger ban in North Dakota. Since, August of 2022, we have been providing abortion care in our new Moorhead location. Since our founding in 1998, we have been strong advocates of accepting insurance and Medicaid and have accepted MN Medicaid for our patients since that time. We are very familiar with the process and reimbursement rates over the last 20+ years.

Abortion providers have historically gone out of our way to keep costs low to our patients. However, with the costs of office supplies, medical supplies and shipping costs increasing, it has become more and more difficult to keep these costs low. This all comes at a cost, and we rely on our patient fees and insurance reimbursement to keep our doors open.

Minnesota has already proven itself a leader in abortion rights by passing the PRO Act earlier this session. The Reproductive Freedom Defense Act is another tool in Minnesota's toolbox that will provide safety and sanctuary for many out of state patients. Reimbursing abortion providers at an adequate level is also imperative and necessary to ensure that those providing abortion care can keep their doors open and accepting of Medicaid for those patients on these programs.

It is a long overdue rate increase, and we strongly and respectfully urge you to support a 50% increase for reimbursement rates for MN Medicaid abortion. I appreciate the opportunity to provide information and if you have any questions I can be contacted at Tammi@RedRiverWomensClinic.com

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tammi Kromenaker".

Tammi Kromenaker
Clinic Director