

The  
 **Long-Term Care**  
**IMPERATIVE**

A Minnesota Collaboration for Changes in Older Adult Services

March 5, 2012

The Honorable Kim Norton  
233 State Office Building  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Chris Gerlach  
120 State Capitol  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Representative Norton and Senator Gerlach:

On behalf of the Long-Term Care Imperative, we would like to express our support for House File 462/Senate File 230, a bill to enact the Nurse Licensure Compact.

The Long-Term Care Imperative is a collaboration of the two statewide associations representing providers of older adult services: Aging Services of Minnesota and Care Providers of Minnesota.

The long-standing shortage of nurses in our members' nursing homes, assisted living facilities and home and community based services is acute and pervasive. The Nurse Licensure Compact has the potential to ease this shortage. Registered nurses and licensed practical nurses in other states would be allowed to practice in Minnesota without having to go through the licensure reciprocity process. Currently, all states contiguous to Minnesota have enacted the Nurse Licensure Compact (North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, and Wisconsin), therefore health care facilities all along our border areas – and elsewhere in the state- would benefit from this legislation.

Increasingly, long-term care providers are utilizing telemedicine or other technology that crosses state borders. This legislation would clarify nurse licensure requirements and eliminate the need for multiple licenses.

We thank you for sponsoring this legislation and would be happy to provide additional assistance and support as this bill moves through the process.

Sincerely,



Kari Thurlow  
Vice President of Advocacy  
Aging Services of Minnesota



Toby Pearson  
Vice President of Advocacy  
Care Providers of Minnesota

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