



May 6, 2025

Representative Robert Bierman
Co-Chair, Health Finance and Policy Committee
5th Floor, Centennial Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Representative Jeff Backer
Chair, Health Finance and Policy Committee
2nd Floor, Centennial Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Co-Chair Bierman and Co-Chair Backer,

I am writing to express my great opposition to the \$1 million cut to the Sexual and Reproductive Health Services (SRHS) grant in HF2435, the Health budget bill. Nucleus Clinic has been a recipient of this grant since 2023 and the funding granted by SRHS is critical to ensure our patients have access to family planning services like contraceptives counseling, screening, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections, and referrals for other medical or mental health care regardless of their insurance status.

Funding for family planning, through the SRHS grant, saves taxpayer money by decreasing teen and unwanted pregnancy rates and reducing the rates of STI, HIV, and cervical cancer. This is equivalent to an estimated taxpayer savings of \$7 for every public dollar spent.

Minnesota is fortunate to have many high-quality community clinics that serve underserved populations because of the SRHS grant. Cutting the funding to this grant program does a disservice to Minnesotans who rely on our clinic and clinics like ours all across the state to receive care. Please do not support cutting this grant.

Sincerely,
Kelsey Lessard DNP, APRN, CNP
Nurse Practitioner/ Clinical Director at Nucleus Clinic