

Saint Paul, MN, February 14, 2025

Dear Chair Backer and members of the Health Finance and Policy Committee,

We write today in opposition of HF10. This bill will be detrimental to the state of Minnesota's future workforce and economic competitiveness. Additionally, the scope of the bill will negatively impact the health and wellbeing of hard-working families and delay the sustained progress of the *Educational Attainment Goals* enacted by the legislature in 2015 (70% of Minnesotans ages 25-44 will have attained a postsecondary certificate of degree by 2025).

For more than a decade, through community listening sessions and surveys, our constituents have expressed to the Council the importance of being able to purchase affordable and quality health insurance. This mirrors a vast body of evidence showing that for individuals and families, health insurance boosts access to critical health services and offers financial protection against high medical expenses. People who lack health insurance will forego the care they need, creating individual harm and increasing the risk of public health concerns. Minnesota Care is a strategic investment that in the long run will reduce health care costs system wide, while offering financial stability to low-income families. The program is funded by enrollee monthly premiums, while eligible enrollees are required to pay deductibles or copays. The fiscal contributions of noncitizens to the state of Minnesota offset the expansion of MinnesotaCare to include them: in Minnesota, it has been calculated that as recent as 2022, immigrants contributed nearly \$222 million in state and local taxes (Institute of Taxation and Economic Policy, 2024).

This bill will hinder the state's economic growth, the optimal health of workers, and the core foundations for financial stability and a better quality of life for future generations of Minnesotans, whether born here or not. For these and other reasons, we strongly advise not to support this bill. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Rosa Tock
Executive Director
651-592-7487



February 14, 2025

Dear Members of the House Health Finance Committee,

The Minnesota Medical Association (MMA), on behalf of more than 10,000 members, is committed to ensuring that all Minnesota patients, regardless of immigration status, have access to safe, timely, and high-quality health care. Minnesota's physicians see the immense value in providing access to care for those with undocumented status through MinnesotaCare.

When patients are unable to access necessary medical care, they may delay or defer treatment until their conditions become more severe, ultimately resulting in higher rates of preventable illness, the unnecessary spread of infectious disease, and more serious negative health outcomes. This results in higher healthcare costs for everyone. By ensuring coverage of all Minnesotans, regardless of immigration status, we reduce the total number of emergency room visits, reduce rates of untreated chronic conditions, and most importantly, help ensure that Minnesota communities are healthier.

In addition, removing access to MinnesotaCare services for people with undocumented status creates an environment of fear and stigma. A 2023 Kaiser Family Foundation study found that those with undocumented status often experience an array of health disparities and fear that seeking coverage, healthcare, or social support services will alert immigration authorities and experience facing discrimination from healthcare providers. These groups must be encouraged – not discouraged – to seek care.

Minnesota has some of the worst health disparities in the country. The proposed legislation would worsen those disparities even further, and likely increase rates of preventable disease, emergency room visits, and associated costs. I urge lawmakers to oppose efforts to restrict healthcare access for those with undocumented status.

Sincerely,

Edwin Bogonko, MD
President, Minnesota Medical Association

Chair Jeff Backer
2nd Floor, Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Opposition to HF10

February 17, 2025

Dear Chair Backer and committee members,

We are writing today to express our strong opposition to HF10 that would prohibit undocumented Minnesotans who meet income eligibility requirements from enrolling in MinnesotaCare.

In Minnesota, we believe everyone needs and deserves access to health care regardless of race, age, income, or zip code. In 2023, the Minnesota Legislature passed the MinnesotaCare Immigrant Inclusion Act, landmark legislation that recognizes the importance of healthcare and the deep contributions undocumented immigrants who live, work, and pay taxes in Minnesota make to our state. This bill repeals this progress and does not reflect the values we share as Minnesotans.

HF10 does not do anything to improve health care for Minnesotans. It undermines durable progress our state has made to achieve universal health care coverage, and harms working families who have contributed tirelessly to our state.

We urge you to oppose HF10.

Signed,

The Advocates for Human Rights

Autism Society of Minnesota

City of Minneapolis

Health Care for All Minnesota

Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota

Indivisible South Metro MN

ISAIAH

James H. Binger Center for New Americans

Jewish Community Action

Mental Health Minnesota

Mid Minnesota Legal Aid

Minnesota AFL-CIO

Minnesota Budget Project

Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs
(MCLA)

Minnesota Doctors for Health Equity
(MDHEQ)

Minnesota Farmers Union

Minnesota Interfaith Coalition on
Immigration

Minnesota Prenatal to Three Coalition

Minnesota Psychiatric Society

Minnesota Society of Child and Adolescent
Psychiatry

Mitchell Hamline Health Law Clinic

MN8

MUUSJA, MN Unitarian Universalist Social
Justice Alliance

NAMI Minnesota

National Association of Social Workers, MN
Chapter (NASW-MN)

Neighbors Together in Solidarity -
Bloomington, MN

Our Justice

OutFront Minnesota

Planned Parenthood North Central States

Plymouth Congregational Church of
Minneapolis

Portico Healthnet

Rural Organizing Project

SHINE Together, LLC

TakeAction Minnesota

Unidos MN

Voices for Racial Justice



February 14, 2025

Rep. Jeff Backer, Chair
Minnesota House of Representatives
Health Finance and Policy Committee

VIA EMAIL

RE: Opposition to HF10

Dear Chair Backer and Members of the House Health Finance and Policy Committee,

The Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota (ILCM) writes this letter in opposition to HF10. ILCM is a nonprofit, nonpartisan legal services organization that provides free immigration legal services to low-income immigrants and refugees in Minnesota and North Dakota.

ILCM helps undocumented victims of crimes in the United States access federal immigration processes that were specifically created for them. The process is long and complicated, and low-income undocumented victim survivors face significant barriers to accessing the services that do exist, even when they report crimes to law enforcement and cooperate with investigations.

HF10 will further disincentivize undocumented victim survivors from seeking help or engaging with law enforcement. Under HF10, an undocumented victim of domestic violence may not be able to use state-funded victim services or access medical care. As a result, that victim may decide not to cooperate with the investigation, or may not be able to, and prosecution of their abuser may not be able to proceed. The victim may face additional violence or death at the hands of their abuser.

HF10 also raises a multitude of other serious concerns with respect to people's access to a public defender if they are charged with a crime, and children's access to free public education. The bill will do little to resolve actual issues facing Minnesotans, while doing a lot to inflict harm on the most vulnerable in our state.

ILCM urges you to vote no on HF10.

Sincerely,

Julia Decker
Policy Director
Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota

February 17, 2025

Re: HF10

Dear Chair Backer and Members of the Health Finance and Policy Committee,

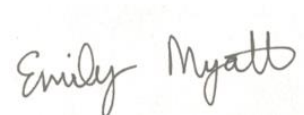
The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society. We support evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. ACS CAN opposes HF10, which would prohibit undocumented Minnesotans who meet income eligibility requirements from enrolling in MinnesotaCare.

In 2025, 37,650 Minnesotans will be diagnosed with cancer and 10,490 will die from cancer. A critical factor for eliminating disparities and ensuring health equity is to guarantee that all individuals have access to affordable coverage, regardless of immigration status. Our ability to continue to make progress against cancer relies heavily on eliminating the inequities that exist in prevention, early detection, and treatment. Without coverage and treatment, people are less likely to get screened for cancer and are more likely to be diagnosed with cancer at an advanced stage when survival is less likely and the cost of care is higher.

By ensuring that everyone has access to care, serious diseases like cancer can be detected and treated earlier – often resulting in better outcomes and lower costs overall.

Please do not take away access to important health and cancer care coverage for undocumented Minnesotans.

Sincerely,



Emily Myatt
Minnesota Government Relations Director
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network



February 14th, 2025

RE: House Health Finance and Policy Committee Hearing on HF10

Dear Chair Backer and Members of the Committee,

As physicians and members of the Committee to Protect Health Care, we write to oppose HF10, which would take away health care from Minnesota immigrants without status. As doctors committed to protecting and expanding access to affordable health care, we believe passing this legislation would harm the health of working people, their families, and Minnesota communities.

Physicians across Minnesota [spoke out](#) in support of including undocumented immigrants in MinnesotaCare, and we strongly support keeping this lifesaving provision in place. We know how critical health care access is for our patients to be able to care for themselves and their families, work, and give back to their communities. When people don't have access to reliable, affordable care, their otherwise manageable health conditions worsen, becoming more difficult and expensive to treat. They are forced to seek care in emergency departments where it's much more expensive and drives up health care costs for all of us.

Minnesota is home to an estimated 81,000 undocumented immigrants. These are our neighbors and members of our communities who work and contribute to our local economies. Undocumented workers perform jobs that are essential to all of us, from cleaning to construction to agricultural work that is critical to putting food on our tables. As these people are working to put food on their tables and ours, they deserve to be able to access affordable health care.

When everyone in Minnesota has access to affordable health care, we all do better. When our neighbors and essential workers can get the care they need, our communities are healthier. Taking away care would only serve to make our neighbors sicker and our local economies and communities weaker.

We urge you to reject HF10 and stand with Minnesota's workers, families, and physicians. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Rob Davidson, MD, MPH
Executive Director
Committee to Protect Health Care

Co-Signed,

Sofia Ali, MD, MPH; Family Medicine (St. Paul)
Will Amundson, MD; Internal Medicine (St. Paul)
Kristen Beikirch, MD; Family Medicine (Litchfield)
Daniel Bollinger, MD; Emergency Medicine (Minneapolis)
Aleta Borrud, MD; Internal Medicine (Rochester)
Mark Brakke, MD; Family Medicine (Coon Rapids)
Amy Brown, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (Excelsior)
Ashley Brown, MD; Family Medicine (Barnum)

Emma Carlin, MD; Family Medicine (Eden Prairie)
Leslie Carranza, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (Byron)
Anna Carroll, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (Minneapolis)
Shruthi Chandra, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (St. Paul)
Madeline Chittineni, MD; Psychiatry (Minneapolis)
Vivek Chittineni, MD; Anesthesiology (Minneapolis)
Stacy Coffin, MD, FASE; Anesthesiology (Duluth)
Charles Cohen, MD; Family Medicine (St. Paul)
Susan Cushman, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (Minneapolis)
Paige Dahlgren, MD; Pediatrics (Minneapolis)
Sarah Davidson, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (Minneapolis)
Arianna Delsman, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (Minneapolis)
Angela Dhruvan, MD; Family Medicine (Minneapolis)
David Ferenci, MD; Pediatrics (St. Paul)
Siri Fiebiger, MD, MPH; Obstetrics & Gynecology (Minneapolis)
Reid Gamble, DO; Obstetrics & Gynecology (Minneapolis)
Markus Gapany, MD; Otolaryngology (Minneapolis)
Richard Gray, MD; Emergency Medicine (Minneapolis)
Leah Henke, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (St. Paul)
Tonia Hoggarth, MD; Family Medicine (St. Paul)
Cynthia Howard, MD; Pediatrics (St. Paul)
Matthew Jacobs, MD; Anesthesiology (Minneapolis)
Susan Jenkins, MD; Child & Adolescent Psychiatry (Minneapolis)

Andrea Johnson, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (St. Paul)
James Johnson, MD; Infectious Diseases, International & Internal Medicine (St. Paul)
Cresta Jones, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (Eden Prairie)
Mary Kemen, MD; Anesthesiology (Chanhassen)
Tom Knabel, MD; Family Medicine (Minneapolis)
Catharine Leahy, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (St. Paul)
Anne Lippin, MD; Family Medicine (St. Paul)
Kaci McCleary, MD; Neurology (St. Paul)
Ann McIntosh, MD; Emergency Medicine (St. Louis Park)
Anders Messersmith, DO; Emergency Medicine (Minneapolis)
Lynn Messersmith, DO; Pathology (Minneapolis)
Roberta Meyers, MD; Internal & Geriatric Medicine (St. Paul)
Steven Miles, MD; Internal Medicine (Minneapolis)
Laura Miller, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (Minneapolis)
Robin Muller, MD; Family Medicine (Redwood Falls)
Ann Murray, MD; Pediatrics, Neurology (Rochester)
Laura Nilan, DO, MS; Pediatrics, Emergency, & Sports Medicine (Hugo)
Juliana O'Laughlin, MD; Pediatrics (Eden Prairie)
Stuart Pemberton, MD; Family Medicine (St. Paul)
Abigail Peterson, MD; Internal Medicine (Crystal)
Mayrose Porter, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology (Minneapolis)
Arnold Potek, MD; Family Medicine (Scandia)
Tim J. Ramer, MD; Family Medicine (Minneapolis)

Paul Andrew Ruth, MD; Family Medicine
(Sartell)
George Sarosi, MD (Edina)
Ian Schwartz, MD; Urology (Eden Prairie)
Carol Sharpe, MD; Internal Medicine (St.
Paul)
Zoey Shultz, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology
(Minneapolis)
Elizabeth Slagle, MD; Obstetrics &
Gynecology (Minneapolis)
Charles Stephens, MD; Family Medicine (St.
Paul)
Quin Stevens, MD; Emergency Medicine (St.
Louis Park)
Melanie Swift, MD; Internal & Preventive
Medicine (Rochester)
Janice Tandler, MD; Family Medicine (St.
Paul)
Paul Tuite, MD; Neurology (Minneapolis)
Lois Van Tol, MD; Family Medicine (Winona)
David Von Weiss, MD; Family Medicine (St.
Paul)
Deborah Wexler, MD; Family Medicine (St.
Paul)
Wendy White, MD; Obstetrics & Gynecology
(Rochester)
Annie Whiteley, MD; Family Medicine
(Redwood Falls)