



MN Leadership Council on Aging

Minnesota Leadership Council on Aging is a champion, thought leader, planner, and educator that advances positive system change for older adults, their families and caregivers. We are focused on creating communities and systems that support aging with dignity and a spirit of well-being in Minnesota.

1265 Grey Fox Road
Suite 2
Arden Hills, MN 55112

(651) 271-3116
adam@mnlcoa.org
www.mnlcoa.org

March 22, 2023

Honorable Members of the House Health Finance and Policy Committee
Room 5 State Office Building

On behalf of the undersigned members of the Minnesota Leadership Council on Aging, **I write today in support of HF1852 (Clardy)** and SF1814 (Fateh), which provides the Minnesota Department of Health with resources for a public health campaign on Alzheimer's Disease.

As trusted organizations in the state's aging sector, our shared mission is to create communities and systems that support aging with dignity and a spirit of well-being in Minnesota. In recognizing racial disparities and the need for culturally relevant messaging on aging, we strongly support this legislation's approach.

Older adults have the right to culturally appropriate community services, social connections and healthcare that fosters their ongoing physical, psychological, and spiritual wellbeing. This legislation addresses the public health crisis of Alzheimer's as well as ensuring culturally relevant messaging tailored to underserved communities, including rural communities. We look forward to working alongside the Department of Health staff to develop and disseminate this information.

On behalf of our members and the 99,000 Minnesotans living with Alzheimer's Disease or another form of dementia, we ask for your support of SF1814/HF1852.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Suomala
Executive Director
Minnesota Leadership Council on Aging

Cc: Minnesota Leadership Council on Aging Delegates

Minnesota Leadership Council on Aging

Delegates supporting the *Alzheimer's public information program* legislation in HF1852 (Clardy):

Cathy McLeer, *State Director*
AARP Minnesota

Amanda Vickstrom, *Executive Director*
Minnesota Elder Justice Center

Susan Parriott, *Chief Executive Officer*
Alzheimer's Association MN/ND

Tom Hyder, *Interim Executive Director*
Minnesota Gerontological Society

Nona Ferguson, *Vice President, Economic Stability and Aging Services*
Amherst H. Wilder Foundation

Kathy Messerli, *Executive Director*
Minnesota Home Care Association

Patti Cullen, *President and CEO*
Care Providers of Minnesota

Jessica Hausauer, *Executive Director*
Minnesota Network of Hospice and Palliative Care

Beth Wiggins, *Director of Caregiving and Aging Services*, **FamilyMeans**

Phil Duran, *Senior Advocate, Aging and Gender Care Access*, **Rainbow Health**

James Falvey, *Executive Director*
Friends & Co.

Deb Taylor, *Chief Executive Officer*
Senior Community Services

Jonathan Palmer, *Executive Director*
Hallie Q. Brown Community Center

Jane Pederson, *Chief Medical Quality Officer*
Stratis Health

Ruth Hampton Olkon, *Chief Executive Officer*
Jewish Family Services of St. Paul

Joseph Gaugler, *Robert L. Kane Endowed Chair in LTC and Aging*, **University of Minnesota**

Mary McKeown, *CEO*
Keystone Community Services

Kate Grathwol, *President and CEO*
Vision Loss Resources

Carol Lundquist, *Executive Director*
Living at Home Network

Vickie Snyder, *Chair, Board of Directors*
Vital Aging Network

Roxanne Jenkins, *Associate Vice President for Services for Older Adults*
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

Julie Manworren, *President and CEO*
Volunteers of America – MN/WI

Jarrod Peterson, *Public Policy Chair/President*
Minneapolis Area Senior Workers Association and St. Paul Senior Workers Association

Dawn Simonson, *President and CEO*, **Trellis Minnesota Association of Area Agencies on Aging**

Heidi Holste, *Executive Director*, **Minnesota Association of Geriatrics Inspired Clinicians**

