



May 3, 2023

Professional Distinction

Personal Dignity

Patient Advocacy

Representative Liz Olson, Chair
House Ways and Means Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Chair Olson and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

With over 22,000 members, the Minnesota Nurses Association (MNA) is the leading organization representing professional nursing across Minnesota. As leaders in labor and healthcare, we are a voice for hospital nurses around the state on issues related to the health and well-being of the public.

We want to thank Representative Bierman for authoring H.F. 402, as amended, which would establish new regulations to prevent further corporatization and consolidation of the healthcare delivery system – which negatively impacts the accessibility and affordability of healthcare services, particularly in rural and lower-income communities, and often leads to services being reduced or the closure of hospitals and clinics. Among other provisions, MNA supports this bill because it:

- Establishes new consumer protections and guardrails through provisions that wisely leverages the authorities and expertise of both the Office of the Attorney General as well as the Minnesota Department of Health;
- Explicitly prohibits transactions creating a monopoly or monopsony;
- Prohibits CEOs, board members, or other healthcare executives from personally profiting off mergers or other healthcare transactions; and
- Extends the moratorium on HMO conversion and requires the state to develop data-informed recommendations related to HMO conversion.

MNA supports this bill because nurses and other healthcare workers continue to be asked to do more and more with less and less, meanwhile healthcare executives continue to rake in record salaries and bonuses. Enough is enough: we need to ensure that our healthcare system puts patients over profits. H.F. 402, as amended, will help us meet the moment and better address this ongoing crisis in healthcare.

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