



*Staying well means staying well informed.*

May 7, 2025

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

Representative Jeff Backer  
Chair, Health Finance and Policy Committee  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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. myHealth for Teens & Young Adults has been a recipient of this grant for over 30 years and the funding is critical to ensure our patients have access to family planning services like contraceptives counseling, screening and testing 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.

With SRHS funding myHealth was able to expand our reproductive services to include women of any age staying at our local domestic violence shelter. Integrating onsite reproductive health services into domestic violence programs provides an important resource to help reduce health consequences related to experiencing violence. Recently, one of our nurses provided STI testing and birth control to a mom of 6 children experiencing domestic violence, and reproductive coercion, living at the shelter. This mom stated she did not want to have any more children, and needed a method of birth control her husband could not take away from her. She received STI testing at the shelter and was able to coordinate transportation for her and her youngest child to come to our Hopkins clinic to have an IUD inserted. Accessing family planning services at a domestic violence shelter is vital to reducing unintended pregnancy and reducing reproductive control.

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,

Connie Robertson  
Clinic Director

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