



Regions Hospital proposal to increase licensed bed capacity – HF 3521 / SF 3587

- Regions Hospital in St. Paul is requesting 85 additional bed licenses to meet current and future demand for inpatient care in the east metro.
- We must address the community's need for inpatient beds, restore capacity lost in the east metro due to closures at nearby facilities, and ensure timely care for patients relying on Regions.
- Regions is the east metro's largest safety-net hospital and only Level I trauma center and burn center, serving adults and children. Additional bed licenses will benefit the entire community, including low-income, uninsured and medically underserved patients.

Our request is based on these key trends in health care and our community:

Capacity issues and demand: Regions operates at or near full capacity across its inpatient medical/surgical units and well above industry occupancy targets.

Projected shortfall and avoiding delays in care: Demand for care currently is greater than our capacity. This has been growing annually, and regional demographic data predicts this shortage will grow over time.

Demographic trends: The aging population and overall population growth in the east metro are expected to drive increased demand for inpatient services.

East metro's largest provider of charity care: In 2024, Regions provided \$35.4 million in charity care for more than 20,000 patients with inadequate insurance or who couldn't afford care, making it the largest provider of charity care in the east metro and one of the biggest in Minnesota.

Level I trauma center: Regions is one of only three hospitals in Minnesota verified as a Level I trauma center for adults and children with the expertise and technology to treat the most serious injuries 24/7.

Leader in mental health: Regions is one of the largest providers of mental health care in Minnesota. Its eight-story behavioral health building opened in 2012 and has 120 private inpatient rooms.

Implementation: A phased expansion would take place on the Regions campus.

Cost estimates: Estimates are determined after a detailed advanced planning process, which takes place once additional bed licenses have been secured. No state funding is requested to add capacity at Regions.

Regions by the numbers in 2024

- Licensed beds: 554
- Available beds: 543
- Admissions: 29,865
- Average length of stay: 5.8 days
- Patient days: 166,662
- Emergency department visits: 100,994
- Newborn deliveries: 2,984

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