

8009 34th Ave S, Suite 1300, Bloomington, MN 55425 www.lifelinkiii.com

February 23, 2021

Chair Tina Liebling and Committee Members Health and Human Services Finance & Policy Committee

Madame Chair & Committee Members-

On behalf of Life Link III, a proud member of Minnesota's public safety and emergency medical services system, I am writing to voice our organization's opposition to H. F. No. 363 *relating to taxation; revenue recapture; disallowing claims from hospitals and ambulance services; amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 270A.03, subdivision 2.*

As an organization, we remain committed to ensuring access to helicopter and airplane emergency medical services (EMS) throughout the state of Minnesota. However, Life Link III functions as an independent, unsubsidized organization and we, like many other EMS providers, are experiencing an escalation beyond historical levels of uncompensated care and transport services. Life Link III readily accepts the 24/7/365 responsibility to maintain a constant readiness for us to immediately respond to requests for emergency care and transport of a patient. We willingly do this without evaluating a patient's ability to pay for the services and as a result, Life Link III reported more than \$5M in uncompensated care in CY2020 alone.

Life Link III opposes any amendment which will eliminate our ability to participate in a revenue recapture program. If the amendment carries, it will further increase the growing level of uncompensated care and transport services our organization experiences.

Life Link III is the largest air medical consortium in the United States, representing 10 major health systems comprised of over 70 individual facilities throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin. We are steadfast in our unwavering dedication to our very important Mission.

Our thanks to the Health and Human Services Finance & Policy Committee for their continued efforts to support the professionals working to care for the emergency medical needs of all residents throughout the great state of Minnesota.



St. Luke's





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Respectfully,

Josh Howell

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