February 7, 2022

RE: HF 2022 and SF 1873

Dear Legislator,

My name is Danielle Murdoff and I am writing in hopes of creating lasting health care solutions by allowing myself and others increased access to eye care. I have experienced more ocular surgeries, lengthy treatments, and complications than most patients twice my age. As a 34-year-old, I have had two corneal transplants, cataract surgery, multiple corneal flare ups of simplex virus, a cataract lens replacement that became loose and needed to be sutured again, and numerous bacterial infections.

Secondary to these complications, I am required to take multiple topical prescription medications, as well as an oral antiviral medication. I am required to drive over six hours round trip to see a corneal specialist to refill this long term, daily oral anti-viral. The corneal specialist appointment takes merely five minutes. I would rather visit my local optometrist that I trust. She knows my eye health better than anyone. The extra doctor visits cost me more, forces me to miss an entire day of work, and adds unnecessary expenses. I plead with you to consider making access easier and allow my optometrist, who is trained and capable, to provide my care.

Please support HF2022/SF1873 and improve eye health care to all Minnesotans.

Sincerely,

Danielle Murdoff

Herman, MN