



Legal Services Advocacy Project
970 Raymond Avenue, Suite G-140
St. Paul, MN 55114

The Honorable Tina Liebling
Chair, Health Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
477 State Office Building
St Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Joe Schomacker
Republican Lead, Health Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
477 State Office Building
St Paul, MN 55155

Re: HF 4063

Dear Chair Liebling, Lead Schomacker and Members of the Committee:

The Legal Services Advocacy Project (LSAP) respectfully writes in support of HF 4063, which requires hospitals to screen uninsured patients for eligibility for public healthcare programs and for charitable care and other hospital financial assistance programs.

LSAP is a statewide division of Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid, providing legislative and administrative advocacy on behalf of our clients and all low-income Minnesotans, including elder Minnesotans and Minnesotans with disabilities. A significant segment of our clients are persons of color and indigenous peoples.

Many Legal Aid clients struggle with medical debt. This bill would significantly assist low-income patients to avoid medical debt and the cascade of other problems such debt precipitates by ensuring patients are connected with programs that compensate the provider for the care given and that provide patients with valuable assistance to complete the often complex application process that accompanies enrollment in payment and coverage programs.

We appreciate the Minnesota Hospital Association for working collaboratively with advocates to ensure the bill achieves its purpose while minimizing extra responsibilities on staff at smaller hospitals. Thank you for the opportunity to provide our support for HF 4063. We urge its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ron Elwood".

Ron Elwood
Supervising Attorney