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March 7, 2022

Representative Fue Lee
Chair, House Capital Investment Committee
485 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Lee and Members of the House Capital Investment Committee,

On behalf of Mayo Clinic, I write to extend support for HF 3203, authored by Rep. Liz Boldon. The legislation does not seek additional state funds but rather seeks to allow the funding passed in 2020 to be used for the entire duration of the runway construction project. The sought extension is an important codification to align the state distribution of funds to the timeline associated with the federal funding received for the project, which is a significant investment.

The Rochester International Airport (RST) is a critical component of the region's infrastructure and is a primary source of how patients travel to Rochester for care. Prior to the pandemic, roughly 370,000 passengers traveled through the airport with many of them seeking care at Mayo Clinic's Rochester campus. Additionally, RST serves as a major partner for cargo air service, including the thousands of diagnostic testing samples that are shipped to Rochester daily from around the world for processing at Mayo Clinic Laboratories. RST serves not only as an important transit hub for our region, but also as a key component of our health care footprint in Southeast Minnesota.

Mayo Clinic is pleased to support HF 3203 in partnership with our RST colleagues and would respectfully ask for your support. Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Piper Nieters Su".

Piper Nieters Su
Division Chair, External Relations