Dear Chair Koegel, Chair O'Driscoll, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Minnesota Credit Union Network and our 82 members across the state, I write to you today in support of HF 400.

Minnesota legislators are frequently presented with compelling reasons to establish new health benefit mandates. These proposals often arise from meaningful constituent stories, recommendations from medical professionals or advocacy by providers and patients. Lawmakers understandably seek to respond to those needs.

HF 400 offers a unique approach by providing that, if a new mandate is adopted, the state assumes the share of costs that would otherwise be passed through to premium payers. This proposal promotes transparency while ensuring well intended coverage requirements don't inadvertently put the cost of health insurance out of reach for more people.

Affordability remains one of the most significant challenges facing Minnesota credit unions and our employees. We want to continue offering comprehensive, competitive health coverage, but sustained premium increases place pressure on our organizations and results in difficult choices. By creating a mechanism that acknowledges both the policy rationale for mandates and their financial impact, HF 400 supports greater stability and affordability in the insurance market.

We appreciate Representative Perryman's efforts to bring greater transparency and accountability to health care proposals. We look forward to continued engagement as the bill moves forward. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ryan Smith

Chief Advocacy Officer

Minnesota Credit Union Network