The Minnesota House DFL is committed to <u>lowering health care costs</u> while increasing access to the care Minnesotans need to live a healthy life. Our Health budget bill expands access to health care, including mental health care, for more Minnesotans and funds system transformation to reduce costs. All Minnesotans, regardless of wealth, deserve access to quality health care that they can afford.



## **Top Impacts:**

### **Improving Access and Care**

Our public health programs are central to the overall health of Minnesota. The House Health budget increases access, coverage, and stability for the Minnesotans who need it the most. This budget bill extends coverage under MinnesotaCare to our undocumented residents who are otherwise eligible, increases eligibility for children, expands reproductive care, and improves dental health coverage, all of which lead to a more equitable health care system.

### **Transforming Our Systems**

The U.S. health care system simply doesn't work for most people. Ever increasing costs, reduced life expectancy, and widespread inefficiencies are the norm with profits prioritized over health. The House DFL budget includes transformational system changes that allow Medical Assistance enrollees to choose whether to enroll in a managed care plan or have care paid for directly by the state, that deprivatize our public health care programs, and that study future ways to control costs. The budget funds a foundational study of ways that healthcare could be financed and delivered in the future, including under a system of universal healthcare. The current system puts layers of bureaucracy, middlemen and corporate interests-between Minnesotans and the health care they need. The changes in this budget will lead to a leaner and more efficient system that can provide affordable access for all.

#### Mental Health

Mental health is health, but for too long has received wholly inadequate support. The House DFL Health budget bill improves our mental health system with mental health grants and support for the new 988 suicide and crisis lifeline. These investments will build out a system that will save lives, reduce stress on hospitals, and help Minnesotans access timely mental health treatment.

# **Other Key Provisions:**

### **Public Insurance Option**

The budget allows for development of a public insurance option to improve access to affordable health care for everyone. It would give Minnesotans a better choice of health coverage with an affordable, reliable and quality option.

### **Supporting Healthcare Workers**

The burden of the pandemic fell heavily on our healthcare workforce. To maintain quality healthcare for all, we must support our healthcare workers and grow the workforce. Whether it's through workforce revitalization, workplace safety, EMS training and grants, or the safe staffing levels for nurses, our budget supports workers. These investments will lead to improved care, increased access to care in every part of the state, and a stronger, more capable workforce.

### Reproductive Freedom

Family planning and reproductive care are foundational rights which should never be infringed, and this budget improves and guarantees access to reproductive care now and in the future. With increased funding for reproductive healthcare, funds for family planning, and the repeal of harmful anti-abortion language, the House DFL is taking a firm stand on access to reproductive care and privacy. Under this bill every Minnesotan will be able to receive the care that serves them, their health, and their families best.