May 10, 2022

Dear Chair Abeler, Chair Liebling, and Members of the HHS Omnibus Conference Committee,

We care for each other in Minnesota. We believe every person has inherent worth and dignity without exception. We know that our economy, families, and local communities are stronger when we all have access to truly affordable, high-quality healthcare for every Minnesotan.

**That is why we write to express our support for the portions of the MinnesotaCare buy-in included in the House side of the Health Omnibus bill, which will allow more Minnesotans to buy-in to MinnesotaCare** (House Article 3, Sections 41-45 and 50-53).

MinnesotaCare is affordable and high-quality healthcare that we build together through state, federal, and enrollee contributions. The MinnesotaCare buy-in in this bill:

* **closes coverage gaps and increases affordability** by
  + allowing Minnesotans with incomes over 200% FPG, who are struggling to afford high deductible plans on the individual market, to buy-in to MinnesotaCare;
  + and allowing small businesses to offer and contribute to coverage their employees can actually afford to use;
* keeps current MinnesotaCare intact and **maintains the current MNCare premiums** of $0-$20 for low-income enrollees. Without this action these premiums will drastically increase if the federal ARPA subsidies are not extended; and
* **creates a path toward alternative care delivery systems** that will work with providers to improve health outcomes, health equity, and access while maintaining affordability for the state and enrollees.

**These provisions take crucial and long-awaited steps toward truly affordable, high-quality healthcare for some Minnesotans. We urge your support.**

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(over for signers)

AFSCME Council 5

Amherst H. Wilder Foundation

Children's Defense Fund

Education Minnesota

Fe y Justicia MN

Hammer Residences

Health Access MN

Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota

Inquilinxs Unidxs por Justicia

Interfaith Coalition on Immigration (ICOM)

ISAIAH

Land Stewardship Project

Legal Services Advocacy Project

Main Street Alliance of Minnesota

Minnesota AFL-CIO

Minnesota Budget Project

Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless

Minnesota Council of Nonprofits

Minnesota Council on Latino Affairs (MCLA)

Minnesota Farmers Union

Minnesota Public Health Association

National Association of Social Workers, MN Chapter

Planned Parenthood MN, ND, SD Action Fund

SEIU Healthcare Minnesota & Iowa

SEIU MN State Council

TakeAction Minnesota

The Awood Center

Unidos MN

Voices for Racial Justice

Working America