



March 3, 2023

House Commerce Finance and Policy Committee
Chair Rep. Zack Stephenson and Committee Members

Re: ***H.F. 1782 Fairness in Health Care Provider Contracting***

Dear Mr. Chair and Committee Members:

I am the President of the Minnesota Podiatric Medical Association (MPMA) which represents over 80 percent of the podiatric physicians and surgeons in Minnesota.

The MPMA supports H.F. 1782, a bill the MPMA believes provides basic fair business and contract principles for health care providers contracting with health plans.

This crucial bill requires basic fairness in contracting by requiring that Health plan companies establish an appeal process for providers to access if the provider's contract is terminated for cause, and health plan companies are prohibited from terminating a provider's contract without cause.

Many contracts are structured to place physicians, podiatric physicians and surgeons, chiropractors, and other healthcare providers at a distinct disadvantage where the plan can unilaterally terminate a provider without cause and without any type of an appeal process for the aggrieved provider.

This provision provides needed transparency in the contracting process, essential due process for providers and most importantly serves to ensure continuity of care between health care providers and patients. When a provider is abruptly terminated without cause, the patient of the provider who has an established relationship with the provider, must suddenly start care all over again with another provider foreign to them and their health issues which undermines the physician/patient care, treatment, and relationship. Continuity of care for patients should be of utmost concern along with fairness to providers.

The Minnesota Podiatric Medical Association requests your support of this important legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaclyn Bohm

Dr. Jaclyn Bohm, DPM
President of the Minnesota Podiatric Medical Association