



Minnesota Hospital Association

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February 26, 2019

Representative Robert Bierman
579 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Senator Paul Utke
3403 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Subject: Support for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics

Dear Rep. Bierman and Sen. Utke:

Thank you for your leadership in helping Minnesota strengthen its mental health care system. I write to you today on behalf of the 141 hospitals and health systems of the Minnesota Hospital Association (MHA) to express support for HF 1250/SF 1532 and sustained state resources for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs).

As one of eight states participating in the federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) demonstration, Minnesota has made significant progress in improving care for residents with mental and behavioral health care needs by expanding access to community-based mental health services through CCBHCs.

MHA has also worked closely with CCBHC's to develop best practices in coordinated and integrated care with hospitals and other medical and social service providers. This innovative care model has allowed Minnesotans to access and receive coordinated care in the most appropriate settings, increasing the likelihood that care will be received before a person enters into crisis, which can lessen the reliance on emergency departments and inpatient beds for mental health services.

Thank you for your support of this important legislation to ensure CCBHC's will continue to be a sustainable care model. Please contact Mary Krinkie, MHA Vice President of Government Relations, at mkrinkie@mnhospitals.org with any questions or ways we can help with this important legislation.

Best regards,

Lawrence J. Massa, M.S., FACHE
President & CEO