



**SEIU Healthcare**  
United for Quality Care

March 1, 2018

The Honorable Senator Michelle Benson, Chair  
Senate Health and Human Services Policy and Finance Committee  
Minnesota Senate Building, Room 3109  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Jamie Gulley  
President

Jigme Ugen  
Executive Vice President

Lisa Weed  
Executive Vice President

Liz Asmus  
Executive Vice President

Phillip Cryan  
Executive Vice President

The Honorable Representative Joe Schomacker, Chair  
House Health and Human Services Reform Committee  
509 State Office Building  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chairs:

SEIU Healthcare Minnesota supports your legislation to grant Regions Hospital an exemption to the hospital moratorium law in order to add 100 bed licenses.

SEIU Healthcare Minnesota represents more than 35,000 healthcare and long-term care workers in hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, and self-directed home care throughout the state of Minnesota, including over 50 pharmacists at Regions Hospital.

Because we represent Regions employees, we know we must add additional capacity in order to meet the growing and aging East Metro population. This general need is even more critical because Regions' provides critical services in the areas of trauma, burn, mental health and as a safety net hospital.

In addition to meeting the needs of Regions patients, expanding Regions' capacity will result in approximately 1000 new jobs over the course of the expansion. We welcome these additional opportunities for Minnesotans to join and advance in the health care workforce.

Thank you for your authoring of this legislation and supporting Regions' patients and workforce.

Sincerely yours,

Rick Varco  
Political Director

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