



March 6, 2018

The Honorable Senator Michelle Benson  
Chair, Senate Health and Human Services Policy & Finance Committee  
95 University Avenue West  
Minneapolis Senate Bldg., Room 3109  
St. Paul, MN 55155

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

Dear Chairs Benson and Schomacker:

We are writing in support of the legislation submitted to expand the number of licensed hospital beds at Regions Hospital, a full-service private nonprofit hospital within the Health Partners organization.

Regions Hospital is committed to the health of our community; patients benefit from an expert team of medical professionals located within St. Paul providing a comprehensive range of services known to be exceptional. In the east metro, Regions is the only burn center and level one adult/pediatric Trauma center. Gillette collaborates with Regions in many ways to assure coordinated care for pediatric trauma patients and vulnerable adults served by Gillette well beyond childhood. In addition, they are a safety net hospital and an important provider in chemical and mental health services.

The pressures we face in health care are great and ever mounting. Regions will reach 100% of its available licenses in early 2018. More beds will allow Regions to better coordinate patient care and meet increasing demands. Gillette supports the proactive planning of Regions to assure community needs can be met in the future.

We are committed to being a trusted partner to the State of Minnesota and a good steward of its health care resources. We know that Regions joins us in that commitment.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara Joers", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Barbara Joers  
CEO and President, Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare

**Clinic locations:**

Brainerd Lakes  
Burnsville  
Duluth  
Mankato  
Maple Grove  
Minnetonka  
Phalen  
St. Paul  
Willmar