Minnesota Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians®

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February 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

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

Dear Chairs Benson and Schomacker:

On behalf of the Minnesota Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (MNACEP) we are writing to you in support of your legislation to grant Regions Hospital an exemption to the hospital moratorium law in order to add 100 bed licenses.

ACEP is the oldest and largest national medical specialty organization representing physicians who practice emergency medicine. With more than 32,000 members, ACEP is the leading continuing education source for emergency physicians and the primary information resource on developments in the specialty.

This legislation is vital to improving emergency care in the state because Regions Hospital is the east metro's only Level 1 Adult and Pediatric Trauma and Burn Center, as well as the leading provider of comprehensive mental and chemical health services in the east metro. It is also a safety net hospital and the largest charity care provider in the east metro. Additionally, Regions is one of the largest private teaching hospitals in the state---partnering with the University of Minnesota to train more than 500 resident physicians each year.

Thank you for authoring this legislation and supporting the critical needs of the patients who are seen at Regions' emergency department.

Best Regards.

Andrew Zinkel, MD, MBA

President, MNACEP