



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Mark Dayton

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

May 10, 2017

The Honorable Kurt Daudt
Speaker of the House
State Office Building, Room 463
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have vetoed and am returning Chapter 33, House File 812 a bill which would impose licensure requirements only upon facilities performing abortions.

This bill would impose new requirements on clinics that perform ten or more abortions per month. The licensure criteria in the bill are overly broad and unnecessary. Its supporters cite lack of statutory authority for the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) to regulate or license clinics. However, MDH believes that current professional licensing standards provide sufficient oversight to protect the health and safety of Minnesotans.

Furthermore, the licensure application process outlined in the bill requires MDH to collect information about clinic workers, but fails to protect the privacy of those workers. This requirement appears to target health professionals who provide abortion services.

Health care research, findings, and conclusions are best left to experts, who are trained to make medical, not political, decisions, and who are in the best position to protect a woman's health.

Our place is not between a woman and her doctor.

Sincerely,

Mark Dayton
Governor

cc: Senator Michelle L. Fischbach, President of the Senate
Senator Paul E. Gazelka, Senate Majority Leader
Senator Thomas M. Bakk, Senate Minority Leader
Representative Melissa Hortman, House Minority Leader
Representative Debra Kiel, House
The Honorable Steve Simon, Secretary of State
Mr. Cal R. Ludeman, Secretary of the Senate
Mr. Patrick Murphy, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives
Mr. Paul Marinac, Revisor of Statutes