



April 3, 2024

Representative Michael Nelson, Chair  
House Labor and Industry Finance and Policy Committee  
585 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Professional Distinction

Personal Dignity

Patient Advocacy

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the House Labor and Industry Finance and Policy Committee,

With 22,000 members, the Minnesota Nurses Association (MNA) represents 80 percent of all active bedside hospital nurses in Minnesota and is the largest voice for professional nursing in the state. We are a leader in nursing, labor, healthcare, and social justice communities, and a voice for nurses and patients on issues relating to the professional, economic, and overall well-being of nurses and the public, including all workers' right to earn a living wage.

We write to express our support for HF 2513, ending the use of subminimum wages in Minnesota. MNA works to guarantee human rights and equal rights for all, regardless of their disability status. In our ongoing pursuit of social justice and worker rights, we call for the legislature to end this discriminatory and outdated model of employment that has caused deep harm to Minnesota's disability community by allowing employers to pay them less than minimum wage. Workers with disabilities deserve dignity and are an integral and important part of Minnesota's workforce, but many of them have been excluded from basic workplace job protections. This bill will advance the civil rights and economic inclusion of people with disabilities in Minnesota by giving them equal pay for equal work through ending the use of subminimum wage in Minnesota.

Decades ago, Minnesota led the charge to provide people with disabilities meaningful opportunities to work in their communities. Last session, the legislature made historic investments in our citizens. Now this session, we have an opportunity to join the 16 other states who have eliminated the use of subminimum wage. Please support HF 2513.

In Solidarity,

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