

April 10, 2025

House Commerce Finance and Policy Committee

Re: HF1646 – Undue Medical Debt

Dear Chair Her, Chair O’Driscoll and Committee Members:

On behalf of Fairview Health Services, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments about our work in partnering with the City of Saint Paul and Undue Medical Debt. Fairview Health Services is a nonprofit, integrated health system providing exceptional health care across the full spectrum of health care services through our 10 hospitals and 60 clinics. Our broad continuum of care includes academic and community hospitals, primary and specialty care clinics, senior and long-term care facilities, retail and specialty pharmacies, pharmacy benefit management services, rehabilitation centers, counseling and home health care services, and an integrated provider network. Fairview’s 34,000+ employees and 5,000+ system-affiliated providers embrace innovation and new thinking to drive a healthier future through healing, discovery, and education.

Fairview knows that a person's ability to be healthy is about much more than what happens inside the walls of our hospitals or clinics. In 2024 we were approached by the City of Saint Paul and Undue Medical Debt to partner in helping to erase the qualified outstanding medical debt of many of our patients living in Saint Paul. Our partnership in working with Saint Paul and Undue helped erase more than \$37 million in medical debt for more than 32,000 of our neighbors in Saint Paul. Fairview was also able to partner with Undue to help erase more than \$200 million in additional qualifying debt for patients across Minnesota.

This partnership with Undue Medical Debt and the City of Saint Paul helped lay the foundation for what is now becoming a statewide conversation. We appreciate the opportunity to share the results of this partnership with Attorney General Ellison, and Representative Reyer. We look forward to future opportunities to partner on this and other important efforts to create a healthier, more equitable future for all Minnesotans.

Sincerely,



Nate Mussell, Vice President of Public Policy

Fairview Health Services