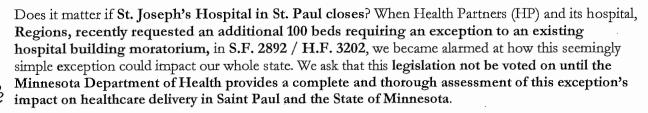
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

St. Paul Province

Commissioner Jan Malcolm P.O. Box 64975 St. Paul, MN 55164-0975

April 20, 2018

Dear Commissioner Malcolm,



We are concerned that this exception could result in the loss of:

- St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Paul. (That would be a loss of approximately 200 active beds and about 1400 employees.)
- 105 inpatient beds in St. Paul dedicated to caring for patients experiencing mental health and chemical dependency crises.
- St. Paul's only Catholic Hospital.

Long term, we believe this legislation could limit access, harm patients, and hurt area community hospitals while directly benefitting Regions/HealthPartners over its competitors. This includes people suffering from mental health and addiction issues.

Due to the critical need for mental health & chemical dy endoney cure, It Joseph's recently agened 50 additional beds to bring this cenit's total number of beds to 105; Working closely with Catholic Charities in downtown At Baul, these beds are routered, filled, as you know, these beds are filled principly with gateent on medicial or Charity care. Without the financial support of its other beds this is not a sustainable model over time. It an insurence of pany or well as health care provider, Health Partners is able to of finewear weentines to encourage use of Regions, even by those might otherwise choose to go somewhere elec,

In the 165 years since the St. Paul Province of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (CSJs) founded St. Joseph's Hospital, we have given our lives in service to our "Dear Neighbors" most in need throughout St. Paul, Minnesota and beyond. We are concerned that this decision could disrupt healthcare services statewide.

Sester Marie Herbert Seiter, cSJ (former 12 year board member) O.S. Health Bartners plan does not address the need for mental as Health I chem degs beds until 2025. Rather, it progress med-bealth I chem degs beds until 2025. Rather, it progress med-sing and outhopedic beds in the first years of the plan. This will result in empty excess beds in St Paul, PLEASE-refrain from making this recommendation until a complete, thorough assessment is done.

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