

**American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees**  
*One strong united voice for Minnesota workers*

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To: Governor's Task Force on Academic Health at the University of Minnesota

From: Bart Andersen, Interim Executive Director, AFSCME Council 5

Dear Task Force Members,

Thank you for serving on this important task force. The future of health care in Minnesota will be significantly impacted by the decisions made today on how to address the issues facing the MHealth Fairview University of Minnesota Medical Center.

AFSCME Council 5 supports your efforts to maintain and improve this critical center and program at the University of Minnesota. We understand that the task force is considering a draft of recommendations and wanted to weigh in on one that would affect our members who work at the MHealth Fairview University of Minnesota Medical Center.

Recommendation #3 states that in the case of any changes in ownership or governance, "existing private sector labor agreements, pensions, and other benefits currently in place must continue without interruption." While we agree with the objectives sought in this recommendation, we feel it should also include public sector labor agreements and maintain public benefits that some workers are still receiving.

We hope you will support all workers at the MHealth Fairview University of Minnesota Medical Center by protecting both public and private contract benefits. Thank you for your consideration.

Bart Andersen  
Interim Executive Director  
AFSCME Council 5