Date

Dear Representative XXX/ Senator YYY:

We write with our support for HF500/SF1531, a bill that restores state spending and budget oversight to an elected Legislature, not a board appointed by the Governor.

We are extremely troubled by the actions of an unelected Board in tying the hands of future legislatures and minimizing the voice of employers throughout local communities in Minnesota. This sets a dangerous precedent for any employer in addition to having an impact on our local economy and quality of life for residents.

By way of background, the Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board was enacted into session law Chapter 53, Article 3 under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 181, and is deeply flawed:

1. This unelected Board was provided with broad authority from the legislature to impart rules and mandates on nursing home facilities without a financial appropriation, and
2. This unelected Board has yielded expedited rulemaking to bypass public hearing obligations, ignore the completion of a statement of need and reasonableness (SONAR) of the promulgated rules, and entirely dismiss the perspective of employers.

We stand with our local nursing homes in opposition to the overreach detailed in the [Employer Minority Report](https://www.dli.mn.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/nhwsb_minority_report_120524.pdf). Having less than three weeks to implement a new regulatory mandate is not reasonable. Impugning the motives of volunteer Board members simply because they are articulating concerns is not reasonable. Enacting new regulations without a single affirmative vote of any Employer member while calling it a “collaborative process” is not reasonable.

It is our opinion that the Board’s statutory construction is inherently flawed and merits urgent, significant legislative remedy. House File 500 is an opportunity to bring that process back under the authority of the legislature.

Please support House File 500/SF1531.

Sincerely,