



April 19, 2018

Rep. Pat Garofalo
Chair, House Job Growth & Energy Affordability Policy and Finance Committee
485 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Chair Garofalo and Esteemed Members of the House JGEA Policy and Finance Committee:

Medical Alley Association thanks you for the opportunity to share our thoughts on the DE amendment to HF4289.

Minnesota is “The Great State of Health” and “Medical Alley” is enshrined in the Smithsonian as one of America’s “Great Places of Invention.” Medical Alley is home to the most densely concentrated health technology cluster in the world, ranks as the #1 region in the world for health technology and is leading the digital health revolution. Medical Alley Association represents over 650 members in the medical device, digital health, diagnostics, biopharmaceutical, health provider, and health insurance sectors. Our members employ more than 500,000 people with an economic impact of greater than \$60 billion.

Medical Alley Association has concerns regarding the following provisions in the DE amendment to HF4289:

Article 1, Section 6: Reductions to the Minnesota Investment Fund (MIF) and Job Creation Fund (JCF)

The Minnesota Investment Fund (MIF) and Job Creation Fund (JCF) are important tools for the state in attracting and retaining business and innovation in Minnesota. Keeping our title as the global epicenter of health innovation and care requires us to compete as a state. These two economic development incentives are a key part of making Minnesota a top destination for business expansion and growth.

These programs have assisted with the creation of more than 10,000 jobs in Minnesota – many in the health technology industry. These incentives have helped make Medical Alley home to the headquarters of Smiths Medical, ABILITY, and Cardiovascular Systems. These programs also helped attract Heraeus Medical Components and the Olympus Surgical Innovation Center to Minnesota. The reduction to these programs will harm efforts to continue attracting companies and expansions like these – with the jobs and investment they bring – to Minnesota.

Medical Alley is the #1 health technology innovation cluster. Staying on top means staying competitive and programs like MIF and JCF are important to doing so.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Bobby Patrick, VI'.

Bobby Patrick, VI
Director, Government Relations
Medical Alley Association