



May 5, 2017

Governor Mark Dayton  
Room 130 State Capitol  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Dayton,

The ACLU of Minnesota (ACLU-MN) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to defending the civil liberties of all Minnesotans under the United States and Minnesota constitutions. We have over 44,000 supporters throughout Minnesota, and promote our mission through litigation, public education and lobbying efforts.

I am writing today to encourage you to follow through on your threat to veto the anti-choice bills recently passed by the Minnesota Legislature.

First, HF 812/SF 704 would treat health care clinics providing abortions differently than other medical providers by regulating them beyond what is necessary for patient health and safety. These Targeted Restrictions of Abortion Providers (TRAP) laws are designed to cut off access to safe, legal abortion and should be rejected because they are based on an unconstitutional foundation. This bill is also troubling because it puts both patient and health care provider privacy at risk with its inspection and reporting requirements.

Second, HF 809/SF 702 would take away a woman's health coverage for abortion just because she's poor. The Minnesota Supreme Court has already declared that access to abortion should not be taken away from some because of their income status.<sup>1</sup> Since this legislation directly violates prior law, having to defend it in court would be an unwise use of Minnesota taxpayer resources.

We respectfully urge you to veto both bills because they are built on an unconstitutional foundation and fail to advance women's reproductive health.

Sincerely,

Teresa Nelson  
Interim Executive Director

<sup>1</sup> *Doe v. Gomez*, 542 N.W.2d 17 (Minn. 1995).

