## WE Stand With Minnesota Nurses

## We believe in the Minnesota Registered Nurses

More than 12,000 Twin Cities Registered Nurses and over 1,500 Duluth Registered Nurses formally began pension and labor contract negotiations with Minnesota's biggest hospital systems (North Memorial, HealthEast, Allina, Methodist, Children's, and Fairview in the Twin Cities; and St. Mary's Duluth Clinic/Essentia Health and St. Lukes' in Duluth) earlier this spring.

Quality patient outcomes start with nurses. Nurses always have and always will be outspoken advocates for their patients' care, protection and safety. MNA Nurses are standing up for a contract that ensures safe staffing levels, infectious disease protections, emergency preparedness, educational development and incentives for potential nurses to enter the profession in the future.

Meanwhile, hospital management seeks to make nurses interchangeable from unit to unit, and hospital to hospital, rather than acknowledge that nurses are highly educated, highly specialized healthcare professionals.

Employers also seek to cut nurses' pension benefits back to 1968 levels and take away countless other benefits nurses negotiated over decades of collective bargaining. Hospitals have laid off 1,740 employees in 2009, while bringing in millions in profits<sup>1</sup> and paying huge salaries and bonuses to their executives. Hospitals are making money while laying off caregivers. This is not putting patient safety first.

We, the faith, elected, community, and labor leaders of Minnesota, strongly support registered nurses in their efforts to protect Minnesota's high standards of patient care and safety.

We call upon the executives and board members of Minnesota's hospital systems to play a positive, cooperative role in negotiating a contract that protects patient safety, patient advocacy and patient protection. Please join us.

## We Support the Minnesota Registered Nurses

AFSCME Council 5 President **Mike Buesing** and Executive Director **Eliot Seide** 

AFSCME Local 34 President Jean Diederich

Association of Flight Attendants - CWA Countil 95 President **Bruce Retrum** 

ATU Local 1005 President Michelle Sommers

CWA Minnesota State Council President Tim Lovaasen

Education Minnesota President Tom Dooher

IBEW 292 Business Manager Tony Maghrak

IBEW Local 110 Business Manager Mike Redlund

IBEW Minnesota State Council President Tom Koehler

IUOE Local 49 Business Manager Glen Johnson

Laborers District Council of MN and ND President and Business Manger **Jim Brady** 

Laborers Local 363 Business Manager Audie Gillespie

Laborers Local 563 Business Manager Tim Mackey MAPE Executive Director Jim Monroe Minneapolis Federation of Teachers President Lynn Nordgren Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation President Bill McCarthy Minnesota AFL-CIO President Shar Knutson Minnesota Building Trades President Harry Melander Minnesota Pipe Trades Business Manager Carl Crimmins MNASO President Elayne Best NALC Branch 9 President Pam Donato North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters Executive Secretary Treasurer James Moore SEIU Healthcare Minnesota President Julie Schnell SEIU Local 63 President Harry Grigsby, Jr. SEIU Local 26 President Javier Morillo-Alicea SEIU Local 284 Executive Director Carol Nieters St. Paul Federation of Teachers President Mary Cathryn Ricker St. Paul Regional Labor Federation President Bobby Kasper Teamsters Local 120 President Brad A. Slawson Jr. UFCW 789 President **Don Seaguist** UNITE HERE Local 17 President Nancy Goldman UFCW Local 653 President Ray Sawicky

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State Auditor Rebecca Otto

Attorney General Lori Swanson

Ramsey County CommissionerTony BennettRamsey County CommissionerToni CarterRamsey County CommissionerJim McDonoughRamsey County CommissionerRafael OrtegaRamsey County CommissionerJan ParkerRamsey County CommissionerVictoria Reinhardt, ChairRamsey County CommissionerJanice Rettman

Congressman Keith Ellison

UNITE HERE State Council Secretary-Treasurer Wade Luneburg

United Transportation Union (UTU) State Legislative Director **Phil Qualy** 

ISAIAH **Rev. Grant Stevensen** Jewish Community Action Workers Interfaith Network

State RepresentativeJim AbelerSpeaker of the HouseMargaret Anderson KelliherState RepresentativeJoe AtkinsState RepresentativeJohn BensonState RepresentativeKarla BighamState RepresentativeDavid Bly

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

St. Paul City Council President Kathy Lantry
St. Paul City Council Member Dan Bostrom
St. Paul City Council Member Melvin Carter III
St. Paul City Council Member Pat Harris
St. Paul City Council Member Lee Helgen
St. Paul City Council Member Russ Stark
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Minneapolis City Council Member Betsy Hodges Minneapolis City Council Member Diane Hofstede Minneapolis City Council Member Elizabeth Glidden Minneapolis City Council Member Cam Gordon Minneapolis City Council Member John Quincy Minneapolis City Council Member Kevin Reich Minneapolis City Council Member Gary Schiff

Crystal City Council Member Joseph Selton

Minnesota Democratic Farmer Labor Party Vice Chair **Donna Cassutt** 

Minnesota Democratic Farmer Labor Party Chair **Brian Melendez** 

St. Louis Park City Council Member **Phil Finkelstein** Vadnais Heights City Council Menber **Joe Murphy** 

2008 School Nurse of the Year Jeanne Sedgwick 3rd District Nurses Association President Mary Olson 4th District Nurses Association President Carol Murphy St. Catherine University Associate Professor, Department of Nursing Roberta Hunt, PhD, RN

Alliance for Better MN Denise Cardinal

America Votes Jessie Danielson

Wellstone Action Jeff Blodgett

Working America David Wehde

