

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION**

S.F. No. 3298

(SENATE AUTHORS: WIKLUND)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
04/07/2025	1708	Introduction and first reading
		Referred to Health and Human Services
04/07/2026		Comm report: To pass as amended and re-refer to Finance

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to health; clarifying hospital closure provisions; amending Minnesota

1.3 Statutes 2024, section 144.555, subdivisions 1a, 1b.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 144.555, subdivision 1a, is amended to read:

1.6 Subd. 1a. **Notice of closing, curtailing operations, relocating services, or ceasing to**

1.7 **offer certain services; hospitals.** (a) The controlling persons of a hospital licensed under

1.8 sections 144.50 to 144.56 or a hospital campus must notify the commissioner of health, the

1.9 public, and others at least 182 days before the hospital or hospital campus voluntarily plans

1.10 to implement one of the scheduled actions listed in paragraph (b), unless the controlling

1.11 persons can demonstrate to the commissioner that meeting the advanced notice requirement

1.12 is not feasible and the commissioner approves a shorter advanced notice.

1.13 (b) The following scheduled actions require advanced notice under paragraph (a):

1.14 (1) ceasing operations;

1.15 (2) curtailing operations to the extent that ~~patients~~ inpatients or emergency department

1.16 services must be relocated;

1.17 (3) relocating the provision of inpatient health services or emergency department services

1.18 to another hospital or ~~another~~ hospital campus; or

1.19 (4) ceasing to offer inpatient maternity care and inpatient newborn care services, inpatient

1.20 intensive care unit services, inpatient mental health services, or inpatient substance use

1.21 disorder treatment services.

2.1 (c) A notice required under this subdivision must comply with the requirements in
2.2 subdivision 1d.

2.3 (d) The commissioner shall cooperate with the controlling persons and advise them
2.4 about relocating the patients.

2.5 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 144.555, subdivision 1b, is amended to read:

2.6 Subd. 1b. **Public hearing.** Within 30 days after receiving notice under subdivision 1a,
2.7 the commissioner shall conduct a public hearing on the scheduled cessation of operations,
2.8 curtailment of operations, relocation of health services, or cessation in offering health
2.9 services. The commissioner must provide adequate public notice of the hearing in a time
2.10 and manner determined by the commissioner. The commissioner must ensure that video
2.11 conferencing technology will be used to allow members of the public to view and participate
2.12 in the hearing. The controlling persons of the hospital or hospital campus must participate
2.13 in the public hearing. The public hearing must be held at a location that is within ten miles
2.14 of the hospital or hospital campus or with the commissioner's approval as close as is
2.15 practicable, and that is provided or arranged by the hospital or hospital campus. ~~Video~~
2.16 ~~conferencing technology must be used to allow members of the public to view and participate~~
2.17 ~~in the hearing.~~ The public hearing must include:

2.18 (1) an explanation by the controlling persons of the reasons for ceasing or curtailing
2.19 operations, relocating health services, or ceasing to offer any of the listed health services;

2.20 (2) a description of the actions that controlling persons will take to ensure that residents
2.21 in the hospital's or campus's service area have continued access to the health services being
2.22 eliminated, curtailed, or relocated;

2.23 (3) an opportunity for public testimony on the scheduled cessation or curtailment of
2.24 operations, relocation of health services, or cessation in offering any of the listed health
2.25 services, and on the hospital's or campus's plan to ensure continued access to those health
2.26 services being eliminated, curtailed, or relocated; and

2.27 (4) an opportunity for the controlling persons to respond to questions from interested
2.28 persons.