



Protecting, maintaining and improving the health of all Minnesotans

January 21, 2005

James Nobles
Legislative Auditor
Centennial Office Building, Room 140
685 Cedar Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-1603

Dear Mr. Nobles:

We have had an opportunity to review the Nursing Home Inspections report and believe it will be very helpful in answering a number of questions raised by legislators and others concerning the overall integrity of the nursing home inspection program. While we have made significant progress during this past year in addressing certain issues, we still have important work to accomplish and the recommendations in the report will help us focus our attention in the most productive areas. In this regard, we intend to share the report with our Long Term Care Ad Hoc Committee and seek their advice in developing a plan to implement the report's recommendations.

We would like to express our appreciation to Ms. Jo Vos and Mr. David Chein of your staff for the professionalism shown during the process of collecting and analyzing information for this report.

Thank you for providing this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dianne Mandernach". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

Dianne M. Mandernach
Commissioner
P.O. Box 64882
St. Paul, MN 55164-0882