



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ken Horstman named chairman of the board for the Minnesota Health Action Group

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. (Feb. 1, 2017) – The [Minnesota Health Action Group](#) (The Action Group) announced today that Ken Horstman, senior director of total compensation at the [University of Minnesota](#), has been named chairman of its board of directors. The Action Group is a coalition of public and private purchasers dedicated to representing the voice of health care purchasers in Minnesota. The board serves to provide ongoing input and strategic direction for initiatives that focus on health care quality, innovation and collaboration. The organization’s signature activities include an annual Employer Benefits Survey, which provides data about benefit trends among Minnesota employers.

In his role at the University of Minnesota, Horstman is responsible for the strategic direction and administration of the university’s compensation and classification programs, as well as employee programs covering retirement, health, wellness and welfare benefits. As chairman of The Action Group board of directors, Horstman will use his experience in human resources and administration to provide insight into the perspective of Minnesota employers.

“Given the ever-present focus on health care quality and the issue of increased spending nationwide, it is vital to have a strong board of diverse professionals to help guide The Action Group’s initiatives,” said Carolyn Pare, president and CEO of The Action Group. “Ken brings a unique perspective to our organization because of his experience in the world of employee benefits and human resources that will shape our future initiatives. We are extremely grateful to have him in this role.”

The University of Minnesota’s self-insured health plan represents more than 38,000 enrolled members across the state. Horstman has more than 30 years of experience in human resources and operations management. He is a University of Minnesota alumnus, holding both graduate and undergraduate

degrees in business. He is also certified as an employee benefits specialist (CEBS), and as a senior professional in human resources (SPHR).

"Given the current climate of uncertainty in the marketplace, it has never been more important for employers from diverse backgrounds and business sectors to use their collective voice to ensure the affordability and accessibility of health care in our communities and workplaces," said Horstman. "We will be focusing on growing Action Group membership and calling upon all members to become fully engaged in our high-value initiatives to ensure that our strength and positive influence continue to grow at the state and national levels."

The Minnesota Health Action Group board of directors also includes Carolyn Pare; Nathan Moracco, assistant commissioner of health care at the Minnesota Department of Human Services; Jon Born, senior director of benefits at SUPERVALU; Jon Schloemer, benefits manager at Mills Fleet Farm; and Deidre Serum, director of employee benefits at Best Buy.

For more information, visit www.mnhealthactiongroup.org.

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About the Minnesota Health Action Group

The Minnesota Health Action Group is a coalition of public and private purchasers whose sole purpose is to represent the collective voice of those who write the checks for health care in Minnesota. Action Group members collaborate with community stakeholders to drive innovations that support high quality health care, create engaged consumers, and ensure the economic vitality of all Minnesota communities. Based in Bloomington, Minn., the Minnesota Health Action Group was formed in 1988 as the Buyers Health Care Action Group. To learn more, visit www.mnhealthactiongroup.org. Follow on [LinkedIn](#) and Twitter: [@actiongroupmn](#).