MINNESOTA ACADEMY of FAMILY PHYSICIANS

March 16, 2026

Senate Health and Human Services Committee
Minnesota Senate
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dear Chair Wiklund and Committee Members,

The Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians (MAFP), representing more than 3,100 family physicians, residents, and medical students across the state, respectfully submits this letter in support of SF 3859.

Family physicians provide comprehensive care to patients of all ages, from newborns to older adults, and vaccination is a central component of preventive health care within our practices. Our members counsel families every day about vaccine safety, effectiveness, and timing, helping patients make informed decisions that protect both individual and community health.

The establishment of a Science-Based Vaccine Advisory Council would provide Minnesota with a consistent and credible forum for evaluating vaccine-related evidence and communicating accurate information to policymakers and the public. At a time when patients are often exposed to conflicting or misleading health information, the presence of vaccine recommendations grounded in science and clinical expertise is particularly important.

Family physicians bring a unique perspective to vaccine policy discussions because we deliver care across the entire lifespan and often serve as the primary point of contact for preventive health services in many communities, including rural and underserved areas. Participation by MAFP on the Advisory Council will help ensure that the experiences of front-line primary care physicians—and the needs of the patients and families we serve—inform the council's work.

We appreciate Senator Klein's leadership in advancing thoughtful, evidence-informed public health policy and for recognizing the value of including practicing physicians in this effort. The Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians stands ready to contribute our clinical expertise to the Advisory Council and to support policies that strengthen confidence in safe and effective vaccination.

Thank you for your consideration of SF3859.

Sincerely,

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