Minnesota Medical Association

The voice of medicine in Minnesota since 1853

612-378-1875 | 800-342-5662 | mnmed.org

March 17, 2026

Dear Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee,

On behalf of the Minnesota Medical Association (MMA), we write to express our support for SF 3859, which would strengthen access to routine immunizations by ensuring comprehensive insurance coverage for recommended vaccines.

Vaccination is one of the most effective public health interventions in modern medicine. Routine immunizations have dramatically reduced the burden of serious infectious diseases and continue to protect the health of children, families, and communities across Minnesota.

Recent data indicate concerning declines in vaccination rates, while outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases are increasing nationwide. Among Minnesota kindergarteners, vaccination against measles, mumps, and rubella has fallen well below the 95 percent threshold needed to maintain community immunity. Low vaccination rates lead to preventable illness, avoidable hospitalizations, and increased risk for immunocompromised individuals.

Vaccines are safe, effective, and cost-efficient tools that prevent disease, protect public health, and reduce long-term healthcare costs. Uncertainty over which vaccines are recommended and whether they are covered by insurance has led families to delay or decline immunizations. SF 3859 addresses these barriers by ensuring comprehensive coverage and clear guidance on routine vaccines, helping more children receive recommended immunizations on schedule.

The Minnesota Medical Association urges your support for SF 3859. Strengthening vaccine access will improve individual health, protect communities, and maintain the stability of Minnesota's healthcare system.

Sincerely,

Lisa R. Mattson MD

Lisa Mattson, MD
President, Minnesota Medical Association