Minnesota Medical Association

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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 4416. This legislation strengthens Minnesota's immunization framework by ensuring that the state's vaccination standards are guided by current, evidence-based medical expertise.

Vaccination remains one of the most effective public health interventions in modern medicine. Routine immunizations have dramatically reduced the burden of infectious diseases and continue to protect the health of children, families, and communities across Minnesota. Maintaining clear, science-based immunization policies is essential to sustaining these gains.

SF 4416 provides important clarity in Minnesota statute by defining "medically acceptable standards" for immunizations as the schedule determined by the Commissioner of Health using the best available medical evidence. The bill directs the commissioner to consider recommendations from nationally recognized medical and scientific authorities, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). These organizations rely on rigorous scientific review when developing immunization recommendations.

This approach aligns with the position of the American Medical Association (AMA), which supports ensuring patient access to vaccines recommended by ACIP and national specialty medical societies such as the AAP and AAFP. The AMA has also emphasized the importance of maintaining a transparent, evidence-based process for vaccine recommendations, noting that weakening expert-driven guidance could undermine public trust and public health protections.

By grounding Minnesota's immunization standards in expert medical recommendations, SF 4416 helps ensure policies remain clear, scientifically sound, and responsive to evolving public health needs.

The Minnesota Medical Association urges your support for SF 4416.

Sincerely,

Lisa R. Mattson MD

Lisa Mattson, MD
President, Minnesota Medical Association