The Honorable Melissa H. Wiklund
Chair
Senate Health and Human Services Committee
2107 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Alice Mann
Vice Chair
Senate Health and Human Services Committee
3225 Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Paul J. Utke
Ranking Minority Member
Senate Health and Human Services Committee
2403 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

March 16, 2026
Re: SF 4416

Dear Chairwoman Wiklund, Vice Chairwoman Mann, and Ranking Member Utke,

The Minnesota Public Health Association (MPHA) is a volunteer-driven statewide public health association. We represent a broad spectrum of community and health professionals across Minnesota since our founding in 1907. MPHA strives to be an active, independent voice for public health in Minnesota. MPHA thanks the Health and Human Services Committee leadership for holding a hearing on SF 4416.

MPHA writes to express our support of SF 4416, and we are in favor of the proposed removal of the requirement for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the American Academy of Family Practice (AAFP) to agree before the commissioner can pursue adding or removing a vaccine requirements using the rulemaking processes. MPHA believes that having the commissioner consider recommendations from all three organizations, along with other relevant criteria, without requiring their agreement will reduce unnecessary barriers in determining vaccine requirements that are appropriate for Minnesotans.

Across Minnesota and the U.S. we are seeing mass confusion amongst families and clinicians as ACIP recommendations are rapidly changing despite strong evidence for vaccinations preventing infectious disease when a high percent of the population are vaccinated. Due to this,

we also support the change in Medically Acceptable Standards (MAS) to not solely depend on ACIP recommendations. MPHA believes that vaccine requirements are an important tool in preventing the spread of infectious disease, and that recommendations should be based on scientific evidence that promotes the health and wellbeing of all Minnesotans.

On behalf of the MPHA, our members, and our communities, we greatly appreciate your attention to issues impacting public health. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Merry Grande, Executive Director, at info@mpha.net if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Tyler Pyle, MPHA President