Good Afternoon Ms. Burke,

My name is Amanda Kozak and I reside at 3221 Crestmoor Drive in Woodbury, MN. I am writing regarding **SF 3439**, which proposes removing the conscientious exemption and requiring the MMR vaccine for all Minnesota children.

I have serious concerns about this legislation. Eliminating the conscientious exemption raises significant constitutional and parental rights questions, particularly regarding a parent's ability to make medical decisions for their own child. Parents have historically been entrusted with evaluating medical risks and making informed choices in consultation with their healthcare providers.

When I met with Senator Amanda Hemmingsen-Jaeger, she explained she supported this bill because she "doesn't want children to die." I believe that goal is shared by all parents and policymakers alike. However, when examining the available research and data, it is important that lawmakers fully consider all risks and outcomes associated with medical mandates:

https://zenodo.org/records/18671462

Policies that remove parental discretion in medical decisions should be approached with extreme caution, particularly when rare but serious adverse reactions are acknowledged. Also, there are legitimate religious objections related to the development of the MMR vaccine as human fetal cell lines originally derived from abortions are utilized. Eliminating the conscientious exemption will force families to violate their religious freedoms which is unconstitutional.

**I will leave you with this question:**

If the state can mandate the MMR vaccine despite the possibility of severe allergic reactions, would it also prevent parents from disclosing or advocating for other medical conditions, such as life-threatening peanut allergies?

Where is the line between public health policy and a parent's right to advocate for their child's individual medical needs?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Amanda Kozak