



MINNESOTA ACADEMY
of OPHTHALMOLOGY

5865 Neal Avenue North, #217
Stillwater, MN 55082

April 14, 2023

Dear Majority Leader Long and Chair Wiklund,

On behalf of the Board and Membership of the Minnesota Academy of Ophthalmology (MAO), I write to express our strong support for increasing the number of Minnesotans who have comprehensive health care coverage -- including vision coverage -- by expanding MinnesotaCare. Coverage for children through continuous eligibility for Medicaid is especially important, not only for their physical health, but also for the socio-emotional development and the educational achievement of Minnesota's children.

As an organization of approximately 300 EyeMDs, physicians and surgeons specializing in Ophthalmology who practice across every region of our state, we are dedicated to promoting high quality medical and surgical eye care for all Minnesotans. To that end, we support your legislative efforts to provide affordable health care to our underserved populations with reimbursement levels fostering sustainable provider participation.

Thank you for your efforts to reduce the egregious health care disparities in Minnesota by offering the hundreds of thousands of uninsured and under-insured Minnesotans access to the high-quality medical and surgical care they deserve – and for which Minnesota is known.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nataliya Danylkova".

Nataliya Danylkova, MD, MBA
President

cc. Chris Schmitter