



# Minnesota Department of Education Licensed School Nurse Position

HF 1572 (Berg, Pursell, Hicks)  
SF 1607 (Baldon, Mohamed, Morrison)

## ACTION

The School Nurse Organization of Minnesota urges state legislators to pass a bill allowing the Minnesota Department of Education to create and maintain a permanent licensed school nurse position to provide guidance to Minnesota schools on health related issues.

## HISTORY

- The Minnesota Department of Education previously employed a licensed school nurse to address school health from a statewide perspective and provide guidance to Minnesota schools. This position was eliminated approximately 6 years ago.
- Federal money from the CARES Act is temporarily funding a licensed school nurse position at the Minnesota Department of Education through October of 2024.

## BACKGROUND

- Currently two-thirds of Minnesota schools do not have a licensed school nurse. Schools need guidance on questions related to school health and the impact on education. It is imperative that someone is available at the state level to help support and guide those schools that do not have a licensed school nurse and a resource to current LSNs..
- The Minnesota Department of Education currently does not collect data on school health related to chronic health conditions, staffing ratios and qualifications, and emergency responses related to health.
- There is no oversight to ensure quality student health services and outcomes. He/she can promote and facilitate positive change.
- Provide assistance regarding nurses' role in special education, individualized health plans, Section 504, and third party reimbursement.
- Align school health services across the state regarding assessing the health needs of students, individualized health plans, emergency action plans, field trips, and Minnesota school immunization law.
- Having a permanent licensed school nurse at MDE will serve as a conduit for MDE to know more about the problems facing health offices across Minnesota.
- Health professionals and administrators need an advisor who understands the unique policy issues regarding student health, coverage for students, and applicable laws with FERPA, HIPAA, and MN statutes.

For more information, contact Jolie Holland, SNOM Legislative Chair  
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