

# Minnesota Chapter

INCORPORATED IN MINNESOTA

American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®



## Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

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January 10, 2023

Chair Wiklund and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

The Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MNAAP) is writing in strong support of SF1, the Protect Reproductive Options (PRO) Act.

MNAAP is dedicated to the health of Minnesota's children and adolescents, and remains committed to ensuring health care access for the youth and families, including reproductive health care. Abortion is an essential component of reproductive health care, and access to abortion services is critical for the health of Minnesotans.

MNAAP strongly supports the principles in the PRO Act to help ensure safe and legal abortion is readily accessible for those who choose to pursue this option. Our state chapter shares the position of the American Academy of Pediatrics, who has long supported access to all options regarding undesired pregnancy, including the right to obtain an abortion. Undesired pregnancy has a profound, multigenerational impact on children, adolescents, and families. When access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive healthcare is restricted, youth and families from marginalized communities bear a disproportionate burden, magnifying long-standing inequities.

Additionally, MNAAP will strongly oppose policies that would otherwise interfere with the physician-patient relationship in decisions regarding abortion, and other policies that would limit the evidence-based practice of medicine, threaten the patient-physician relationship, and inhibit the delivery of safe, timely, and necessary comprehensive care, including reproductive health services and information.

MNAAP greatly appreciates the House Health Finance and Policy Committee for prioritizing this important issue and is proud to support the PRO Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eileen Crespo". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light green rectangular background.

Eileen Crespo, MD, FAAP

President, Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics