Minnesota Chapter

INCORPORATED IN MINNESOTA

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
1609 County Road 42 W #305,
Burnsville, MN 55306

President
Katie Smentek, MD, FAAP

Vice President
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Treasurer
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Rachel Tellez, MD, FAAP

Executive Director
Jeff Bauer
bauer@mnaap.org

Immediate Past President
Eileen Crespo, MD, FAAP

Chapter Web site
www.mnaap.org

AAP Headquarters
141 Northwest Point Blvd.
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

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Dear members of the Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee,

On behalf of the over 1,000 members of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MNAAP) committed to improving the health of children and adolescents across Minnesota, we write in strong support of SF 1961, which would require health plans to cover infertility diagnosis, treatment, and medically necessary fertility preservation services.

Infertility is a common health concern that affects many Minnesota families. Approximately 186,000 Minnesotans are impacted by infertility, and about one in six individuals globally have trouble achieving pregnancy or sustaining a pregnancy.

Pediatric and adolescent patients facing serious illness, including cancer, are at particular risk of fertility impairment due to medically necessary treatments. Cancer therapies such as chemotherapy and radiation can have long-term effects on reproductive function. Clinical practice guidance supports the importance of fertility discussions and preservation planning as an integral part of comprehensive care for young patients facing these treatments. These discussions should occur early in the treatment process to give patients and their families the opportunity to consider fertility preservation options when appropriate.

Without health insurance coverage, fertility preservation services are often prohibitively expensive, placing an undue financial burden on families already managing serious medical conditions. Ensuring access to infertility care and fertility preservation services helps safeguard future family-building options, supports long-term quality of life, and promotes equity in health care access.

The Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics respectfully urges your support of SF 1961 so that all Minnesotans, including children, adolescents, and young adults at risk of treatment-related infertility, can access essential fertility care and preservation services.

Sincerely,



Katie Smentek, MD
President, Minnesota Chapter American Academy of Pediatrics