Minnesota Hospital Association

161 Rondo Ave, St. 1010
St. Paul, MN 55103

March 4, 2026

Chair Klein and members of the Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee,

On behalf of the Minnesota Hospital Association (MHA) and the patients that our 139 hospital and health system members serve, we write to you today in support of SF 3859 (Klein). This legislation takes important steps to protect Minnesotans' access to routine immunizations and establishes a science-based framework for vaccine guidance at a time when clarity is critically needed.

Minnesota's hospitals and health systems are on the front lines of preventive care, administering vaccines to patients of all ages, from infants and children to adults and seniors. Our member institutions have invested significantly in community-based vaccination efforts, reaching patients in clinics, hospitals, and non-traditional settings to improve access across the state. We have seen firsthand the consequences when vaccination rates decline: more hospitalizations, preventable illness, and needless strain on our communities and the patients we serve.

Minnesota has experienced a troubling drop in childhood vaccination rates since 2020, contributing to outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases including measles and pertussis. At the same time, recent uncertainty surrounding federal vaccine policy has left patients, providers, and payers unclear about which vaccines will be covered and recommended. SF 3859 directly addresses this uncertainty by requiring coverage of routine vaccines without cost-sharing and anchoring that coverage to recommendations from leading professional medical organizations and evidence-based science.

Vaccines are among the most effective public health tools we have. Ensuring Minnesotans can access them without financial barriers and with confidence in their safety and efficacy is essential to protecting the health of our communities. MHA urges the committee to support SF 3859.

Sincerely,

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