

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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March 28, 2023

Health Finance and Policy Committee
State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Members of the Health Finance and Policy Committee,

On behalf of the nearly 1,000 members of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MNAAP), thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the following items in HF 2930, the Health Finance and Policy Committee omnibus bill.

MNAAP strongly supports investments into the early childhood initiatives that enhance the health, education, care, and opportunity for our youngest Minnesotans. Access to these initiatives correlates to better child and adolescent health outcomes, long-term educational attainment, and improvements in youth well-being. MNAAP supports the following items in HF 2930:

- Art. 3, Sec. 125 (pg. 218): Community Solutions for Healthy Child Development Grant Program
- Art. 3, Sec. 191 (pg. 273): Healthy Beginnings, Healthy Families Act
- Art. 3 Secs. 126-127 (pg. 221) regarding lead remediation and testing in school and childcare settings and a Child Care Setting Grant Program

MNAAP strongly supports the expansion of Minnesota's school-based health centers in Art. 3, Secs. 122 (pg. 212) to support access to school-based services.

MNAAP supports the mental and behavioral health items in Art. 7, Sec. 1 (pg. 366), and the Cultural and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure Grant Program in Art. 8, Sec. 3 (pg. 390). Increased access to mental and behavioral healthcare treatments and services to provide early identification, intervention, and other mental and behavioral health services to children, adolescents, and their families is a top priority for MNAAP.

MNAAP is extremely supported of statewide efforts to increase vaccination rates. This includes the language in Art. 3, Sec. 199 (pg. 284) to administer a program to provide vaccinations to uninsured and underinsured individuals.

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on HF 2930.

Sincerely,

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

Eileen Crespo, MD, FAAP
President, Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics