



February 5, 2021

Rep. Sydney Jordan
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55119

Dear Rep. Jordan:

The Minnesota Medical Association (MMA) is the professional association of physicians, residents, and medical students. On behalf of the MMA's 10,000 members, I am pleased to offer the physician community's support of the provisions related to comprehensive sexual health education found in HF 358.

The MMA has long supported the instruction of comprehensive, developmentally appropriate, medically accurate sexual health education in schools. Giving students access to high quality, peer-reviewed sexuality education can serve to reduce the incidence of risky sexual behavior. The research into sexual education makes clear that comprehensive, medically accurate material can reduce the rates of both unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections. HF 358 contains the right provisions to ensure that students will be exposed to high quality sexual health education at a developmentally appropriate age. Discussion of sexual health is a core component of an overall health education curriculum.

Once again, the MMA urges support for the provisions in HF 358 related to sexual health education as a means towards a healthier Minnesota. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Peitso, MD
President
Minnesota Medical Association