

NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 8, 2006**

**Contact: Lorrie Holmgren
612/362-3742
Scott Smith
612/362-3726**

MMA 153rd ANNUAL MEETING TO CONVENE IN MINNEAPOLIS

MINNEAPOLIS - The 153rd Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Medical Association (MMA) will be held at the Minneapolis Convention Center in downtown Minneapolis Thursday, September 14 and Friday, September 15. The MMA is a professional organization representing more than 10,000 physicians in the state.

During the Annual Meeting, the MMA House of Delegates will decide whether to adopt about 60 resolutions on a wide range of topics, including resolutions calling on the MMA to take the following actions:

- Urge the Minnesota Legislature to require all Minnesotans to have health care insurance (R 300 and 308).
- Support efforts to make insurance community rated as well as mandatory and to provide government help for those who can't afford insurance (R 304).
- Improve safety on Minnesota's roads by requiring driving tests for older drivers (R 305) and prohibiting youth 16 to 17 years old from driving after 11 p.m. or with other teenagers in the car unless there is adult supervision (R 314).

-MORE-

- Support policies to make sure all Minnesotans have a medical home where their care is provided and managed (R. 315).
- Advocate an increase in the state tax on beer, wine and spirits (R. 201).
- Explore ways physicians can help identify children with autism and developmental delays and improve their outcomes (214).

The MMA will present its new Leadership in Quality Improvement awards as well as Community Service Awards, President's Awards, Minority Service Award, Medical Student Award, Physician Communicator Award, and Award for Excellence in Medical Journalism at the MMA Awards Lunch on Thursday, September 14.

Other Annual Meeting business includes the election of new MMA officers and delegates to the American Medical Association's House of Delegates and the inauguration of the new MMA president, G. Richard Geier, M.D, at the inaugural dinner Thursday, September 14. About 450 representatives of the state association's member-physicians will participate in the Annual Meeting.

The resolutions, reports, and a full schedule of events are posted at www.MMAonline.net. For details, please click on Annual Meeting under featured links on the MMA home page.