



March 24, 2026

Dear Members of the Health and Human Services Finance and Policy Committee,

On behalf of the Minnesota Medical Association (MMA), the largest professional association representing over 10,000 physicians across the state, I am writing in support of SF 4486.

The legislation to authorize appropriately trained pharmacists to initiate, prescribe, dispense, and administer medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) would improve access to needed services in communities across Minnesota.

SF 4486 allows pharmacists the flexibility to adapt their prescribing to constantly changing clinical guidelines regarding buprenorphine, as contrasted by an alternative authority pathway via a statewide protocol, such as that for naloxone. The authority included in the legislation should seek to ensure appropriate documentation in the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) and patient and electronic health records; facilitate referrals to physicians for comprehensive care and ongoing medication management; and ensure patient receipt of resources for ongoing supportive counseling.

The demand for these services in Minnesota is severe, and access must be increased. On behalf of the MMA, I appreciate the collaborative effort by the Minnesota Pharmacist Association to shape SF 4486 into a practical bill that will improve the health of Minnesota patients with opioid use disorder, and I respectfully ask members for their support.

Sincerely,

Lisa Mattson, MD
President, Minnesota Medical Association