



April 13, 2026

Dear Members of the House Health Finance and Policy Committee,

On behalf of the Minnesota Medical Association (MMA), I write to express support for HF 4460, which would establish a licensure framework for Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants (CAAs) and authorize them to practice in Minnesota.

Minnesota law currently does not authorize CAAs, excluding the state from a rapidly growing national workforce. There are currently 23 accredited CAA programs across the United States, producing highly trained specialty clinicians each year, yet Minnesota is unable to attract these professionals under current law, placing additional strain on an already limited anesthesia workforce.

CAAs are highly educated and trained medical professionals who play a vital role in delivering safe and effective anesthesia care. CAAs complete more than 24 months of master-level training in accredited programs, focused on biomedical sciences, diagnostics, and clinical decision making, aligned with physician anesthesiologists. Their licensure serves as an appropriate example of utilizing highly trained specialists within the physician-led care teams.

As Minnesota faces growing demand for surgical services and ongoing workforce shortages, authorizing CAAs would provide critical flexibility while maintaining high standards of care. Integrating CAAs into the physician-led care team would help meet patient needs across the state, including in rural and underserved communities.

For these reasons, the MMA respectfully urges the Committee to support HF 4460.

Sincerely,

Lisa Mattson, MD
President, Minnesota Medical Association