



2022 Federal Legislative Priorities

Improve Financial Stability for Hospitals and Health Systems

Hospitals and health systems should have the resources they need to serve our communities.

- Replenish the Provider Relief Fund and provide hospitals flexibilities to utilize relief funds
- Permanently extend the moratorium on Medicare sequester cuts
- Preserve existing federal funding and pursue opportunities for new funding
- Increase access to affordable health care coverage

Strengthen the Health Care Workforce

Minnesota's hospitals and health systems are admitting an increased volume of patients and struggling with a burned-out and shrinking health care workforce. Emergency federal support has helped provide immediate relief for health care providers and increasing bed capacity, but Congress needs to commit to our health care workforce by investing in their future.

- Additional funding for federal workforce development and education programs
- Additional graduate medical education and children's graduate medical education positions
- Immigration visa reform
- Mental health services and support for health care workers

Expand Mental Health Support

Minnesota's hospitals and health systems are dedicated to providing appropriate care for individuals with mental health needs and substance use disorders.

- Increase access and affordability of treatment, especially in rural communities
- Ensure payment parity

Maintain Access to Telehealth

The pandemic put our health care system through a historic stress test, but it also made clear that Minnesotans expect to access health care where and when they need it. Telehealth flexibilities should be made permanent, including removing geographic restrictions and ensuring payment parity to keep access affordable.

Protect the 340B Program

The 340B program has acted as a bridge to affordable drugs for more than three decades. For safety-net and critical access hospitals, 340B is a critical element for providing access to care and successful medical services. It also allows hospitals and health systems to stretch limited resources and address immense financial and operational challenges. Congress should ensure ongoing 340B eligibility for disproportionate share hospitals (DSH) during the public health emergency and fight back against big pharma abuse, which threatens the long-term viability of the program.