

# MNACHC 2017 State Legislative Priorities



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The Minnesota Association of Community Health Centers (MNACHC) is a non-profit membership organization of Minnesota's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs).

MNACHC works on behalf of its members and their patients to promote the cost-effective delivery of affordable, quality primary health care services, with a special emphasis on meeting the needs of low income and medically underserved populations.



## MN House

*Support HF711 (McDonald-R)*  
*Support HF1269 (Zerwas-R)*

## MN Senate

*Support SF1050 (Abeler-R)*

1

### **Re-base Health Center MA Rates (HF1269/SF1050)**

Health Center Medical Assistance (MA) rates were established in 2001. Since then, Health Centers have added services to improve health and lower costs (e.g., community health workers, electronic medical records). This proposal would recognize these costs for MA encounters at Health Centers.

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### **Increase the Health Center Appropriation (HF711/SF1050)**

The \$3.6M Health Center appropriation (MDH) will decrease by \$1M on July 1, 2017. Health Centers are requesting a +\$2M increase to \$4.6M/yr. Investments will focus on: 1] access to oral health services; 2] access to behavioral health services; 3] care coordination; and 4] data analytics costs related to health care

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### **Promote Access for Low-Income Seniors (HF711/SF1050)**

Provide Health Centers with a choice between Medicare or Medical Assistance reimbursement for the 3,800 low-income seniors ("Dual Eligibles") that Health Centers serve. Currently, Health Centers are limited to Medicare reimbursement and in some cases, the Health Center's MA rates are higher.

4

### **Streamline Health Center MA Payments (HF1269/SF1050)**

Health Centers would submit MA encounter claims directly to DHS for payment. This approach eliminates future payment delays for Health Centers and re-directs administrative resources to patient care.

5

### **Re-direct Prescription Drug Savings (HF1269/SF1050)**

Direct DHS to share prescription drug program savings ("the 340B program") with Health Centers. Legislation requires DHS to work with Health Centers to ensure compliance with federal law while simultaneously supporting Health Center mission.