

MINNESOTA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION POLICY & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Voices for Public Health



MINNESOTA PUBLIC
HEALTH ASSOCIATION

www.mpha.net

Meet the Panel

- Vayong Moua, Director of Health Equity Advocacy at Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Annie Halland, MPHA Policy & Advocacy Co-Chair

Esteemed Guest:

- Representative Peggy Flanagan (DFL) District 46A

During this session, we will...

- Review MPHA's 2017 Legislative Priorities
- Status update on the 2017 Legislative Session
- Discuss opportunities for future public health and health equity advocacy with our panelist

MPHA 2017 Legislative Priorities

- Support efforts to reduce health inequities
- Support public health funding – including increasing local public health grant funds and maintaining Statewide Health Improvement Program funding
- Support gun violence prevention efforts
- Support environmental health efforts to ensure healthy families, clean water, clean air, and a healthy climate

2017 Legislative Session Status

- Health Equity
 - Governor's Health Equity Opportunity Frame
 - Local preemption bill – #LocalControl
- Gun Violence Prevention
 - Permitless Carry – did not get a vote
 - “Stand Your Ground” passed out of House cmte

2017 Legislative Session Status – cont'd

- SHIP funding
 - Some diversion from prevention in House bill, but funding largely intact
- Local Public Health Act funding
- Environmental Health and Climate Change
 - House passed environmental omnibus bill with damaging rollbacks; Senate likely to follow suit

Policy & Advocacy Committee activities

- Committee:
 - Sent action alerts
 - Partnered with Minnesotans for Healthy Kids Coalition to organize Day on the Hill event
 - Partnered with Protect MN on Health Professionals Lobby Day
 - Partnered with Protect MN and Everytown for Gun Safety on GV prevention conversation
 - Signed on to numerous letters of support
 - Developed three resolutions
- Members:
 - Called/sent messages to legislators and Governor
 - Attended Lobby Days

Questions for the panel

- How can we frame public health and health equity to emphasize the common good vs. social engineering?
- What can we do as PH and HE advocates do to increase our credibility with elected officials and public?
- How can we promote PH and HE short and long term goals as a political priority?

Questions from audience (time permitting)

Contact Us

- Policy Committee: Annie Halland and Laura Klein:
policy@mpha.net

Policy & Advocacy Committee meets every first Wednesday of the month, 11:30a – 1:00p at the MN Council of Health Plans in the Court Int'l Bldg, 2550 University Ave, Saint Paul

- Health Equity Committee: Melanie Peterson-Hickey and Jaime Martinez: healthequity@mpha.net

Health Equity Committee meets every second Thursday of the month from : 5:30-7:30pm.