



Minnesota Chapter

**Minnesota Chapter of the  
American Academy of  
Pediatrics**

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Dear Colleagues,

We have witnessed the recent protests around the country at airports, including here in Minnesota at MSP International Airport, as a response to President Trump's executive order banning entry into the U.S. by citizens of 7 predominantly Muslim countries. This has importance for pediatricians in Minnesota for a number of reasons, notably our workforce and patients.

- Many of our colleagues across the state and residents across multiple specialties in multiple institutions are from these countries. This executive order affects them and their loved ones directly.
- Our current and future workforce is bolstered, not hurt, by providers who weren't born in the United States. In fact, over 15 percent of Minnesota physicians attended medical school in a country outside the United States or Canada. They are vital to addressing workforce shortages and ensuring access to care.
- A significant number of our patients and their families are immigrants from these war-torn countries, particularly Somalia, Ethiopia and Liberia.
- One in six Minnesota children has at least one immigrant parent. Some are worried they won't be reunited with family members. Others fear additional stigmatization in their communities.

At this time, I ask that we stand in solidarity with our patients, our colleagues, our trainees and their families. I urge our state elected officials and the Trump Administration to ensure that children and families who are escaping violence and adversity can continue to seek refuge in our country. As a nation of immigrants, this is the true essence of what it means to be American.

As noted in the recent [AAP statement](#), "Immigrant children and families are an integral part of our communities and our nation, and they deserve to be cared for, treated with compassion, and celebrated. Most of all, they deserve to be healthy and safe".

As pediatricians, we will continue to stand with the immigrant children that we care for and their families. I have provided a link to the national AAP statement on Mr. Trump's order. <https://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/aap-press-room/pages/AAPStatementonProtectingImmigrantChildren.aspx>

MNAAP will be writing to President Trump and members of Minnesota's congressional delegation. I urge each of you to contact your [congressional leaders](#) in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives as well as the [White House](#) to voice your concern regarding the negative impact this executive order will have on the children we care for as well as its effects on our state's current and future health care workforce.

Sincerely,  
Andrew Kiragu, MD, FAAP  
MNAAP President