

Chair: David Bernstein 612-673-2610 David.Bernstein@dwitaskforce.com

H.F. 1001

February 18, 2019

Rep. Pinto:

The Minnesota DWI Task Force writes to state its support of House File 1001.

Removing license plates on the side of the road can be dangerous, difficult, and time-consuming for law enforcement. It is in the interest of public safety to have officers spend their time patrolling the streets, as opposed to removing license plates. Consequently, in some cases, the impoundment does not take place roadside, but an impoundment order is sent to the tow yard. However, the tow yard fails to enforce the order. Allowing law enforcement officers the option of utilizing a permanent sticker to effectuate license plate impoundment accomplishes these objectives and ensures that the impoundment take place.

The DWI Task Force also supports the provision to increase the temporary permit from 7 to 14 days, as well as to expand the permit's validity to 45 days for blood or urine tests. The increase from 7 to 14 days will provide an individual with a better opportunity to enroll in the ignition interlock program. In the case of blood or urine tests, the sample must be tested by the BCA, and many prosecutors wait to charge a suspect until the lab results are released.

Sincerely,

David Bernstein Chair, Minnesota DWI Task Force