## House Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Committee March 17, 2022

## Written Testimony of Matt Ehling Board Member, Minnesota Coalition on Government Information

Dear Rep. Frazier and members of the House Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Committee,

The Minnesota Coalition on Government Information (MNCOGI) writes in regard to Rep. Frazier's amendment to House File 4200, first offered in House Judiciary on March 15. Specifically, we write in support of lines 2.17-2.22, which deal with the establishment of a presumptive 14-business day time frame for the public release of body camera footage documenting deadly force incidents involving peace officers.

MNCOGI has followed body camera issues closely since 2015 when the first bills were introduced to classify body-worn camera data, and we actively participated in the two-year negotiation process that resulted in the current body-worn camera statute (Minn. Stat. § 13.825).

Our organization has also consistently supported proposals meant to ensure public access to data that documents consequential activities undertaken by the government, including those instances in which government actors use deadly force.

MNCOGI supports the adoption of a standardized time frame for the public release of body-worn camera data that documents deadly force incidents, and we feel that the amendment's parameters in this regard (found in lines 2.17-2.22) are reasonable.

Sincerely,

Matt Ehling MNCOGI board member