

March 29, 2022

The Honorable Representative Hornstein House Transportation Finance and Policy Committee 75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard St. Paul, MN 55155 600 W Travelers Trl Burnsville, MN 55337 (309) 696-1509 Mmitts@acg.aaa.com

Meredith Mitts Public Affairs Specialist AAA Minnesota-lowa

Dear Chairman Hornstein:

On behalf of AAA Minnesota-Iowa, I am writing to express AAA's support for the proposed Advisory Council for Traffic Safety, including the four million dollar ongoing budget request to support the council's activity.

As a traffic-safety organization, AAA strives to ensure members' safety on roadways throughout the state by advocating for safe driving education, behavior, and legislation. In the last few years, traffic fatalities and serious injuries have been trending upward – the wrong direction. The proposed Advisory Council for Traffic Safety would bring together key players throughout the state so that we can work together as one unit to create safer roadways.

Currently, there are many separate organizations and coalitions all working to reduce traffic fatalities, but no one group has all the key players needed to create a unified that would best allocate time, effort, and resources. The proposed council would be able to bridge this gap. Additionally, the four million dollar ongoing budget request would equip the council to create actionable campaigns based on the research, findings, input, and discussions of the advisor council and coalitions throughout the state.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you would like further information on this topic and why we support it as a great step forward in the traffic safety sphere. We stand at the ready to work with the committee and bill sponsors to address this growing problem on Minnesota roadways.

Sincerely, Meredith Mitts

cc: House Transportation Finance and Policy Committee Members

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