



May 5, 2025

To: House and Senate omnibus transportation bill conferees  
Fr: Minnesota Deputy Registrars Association (MDRA)  
Re: Matters concerning HF 2438/SF 2082

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As you deliberate a final conference committee report for the 2025 omnibus transportation budget and policy bill, we seek your favorable consideration on the following issues:

- (1) **Please adopt** the “no-fee” transaction reimbursement for deputy offices (*identical language in both house and senate versions*). This \$2.2 million annual appropriation is sourced from the DVS special revenue account and is also a governor’s recommendation. It reflects a key recommendation from two previous independent expert reviews concerning deputy registrar sustainability.
- (2) **Please reject** the (*house only*) DVS proposal to expand its online offerings with driver license (DL) renewals and replacements **UNLESS** it includes equitable DVS revenue sharing for deputies who are DL agents. This condition was also recommended by those two independent expert reviews (*King report and Barry Dunn report*) which were commissioned by the state legislature in 2019 and 2024.

Reimbursement for “no-fee” transactions is long overdue, and it will help to offset our ongoing operational losses. However, this gain will be nullified should online DL services be granted DVS without any revenue sharing! DVS estimates they will capture \$2.1 million annually in filing fee revenue by pursuing this; *business that our offices currently realize!*

In short, we would forfeit a large segment of our fee-based transactions to DVS in order to be reimbursed for our “no-fee” services. Linkage of this nature is not acceptable, nor helpful.

Sincerely,

Jeff Lenarz, MDRA President  
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