



MINNESOTA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

100 Empire Drive, Suite 222, St. Paul, MN 55103

Phone: 651.451.7216 Fax: 651.451.8087

Email: info@mnsheriffs.org

Chair Carlos Mariani

Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy

479 State Office Building

St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

March 9, 2021

Chair Mariani,

The Minnesota Sheriffs' Association (MSA) writes in opposition to HF1378. On the surface the bill seems rather straight forward; however, it is far more complicated than what it appears. Sheriffs are concern that blanketly creating concurrent jurisdiction will cause significant confusion to the citizens being served by each agency.

It is not as simple as a police department responding to a call for service. When an individual from a city, with a police department, calls for service the public safety answering point (communication center) will dispatch the police department. In this situation, calling for assistance will most likely result in sheriff and tribal police response. Is the caller to choose who they would like to handle the call for service? Under the current structure of the cooperative agreement, response to calls for service is agreed upon. There are many other complicated issues that will be brought forward because of concurrent jurisdiction.

The MSA is appreciative that the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe reached out to have conversation on the proposed language. We were each able to express our individual concerns with the bill. We all can agree when citizens call '911' they want a well-trained professional public servant to respond quickly.

Sincerely,

William M. Hutton

Executive Director