



MINNESOTA CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION

DEDICATED TO THE IDEALS OF PROFESSIONAL POLICING

May 6, 2025

Chair Moller, Chair Novotny, Chair Latz and Members of the Public Safety Conference Committee:

On behalf of more than 300 police chiefs in our state, the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) would like to thank the committee for the opportunity to submit written testimony and point out sections we appreciate the inclusion of in either body's version. We urge the conference committee to include the following policy language and budget appropriations in the conference committee report.

Philando Castile Memorial Training Fund

Senate Article 2, Section 4 (b) and House Article 2, Section 4 (b)

MCPA supports the inclusion of the \$12 million in the Senate bill and \$11 million in the House for the biennium dedicated to the Philando Castile Memorial Training Fund. We urge the committee to fully fund the \$12 million appropriation request. This appropriation is MCPA's number one priority and is vitally important for a law enforcement agency's ability to reimburse costs related to law enforcement training courses required.

Intensive Comprehensive Peace Officer Education and Training Program

Senate Article 2, Section 16, Subd. 8 (y) and House Article 2, Section 3, Subd. 7 (b)

We further support the inclusion of \$5 million in 2026 in the Senate and \$2 million each year in the House to implement Intensive Comprehensive Peace Officer Education and Training Program. The MCPA supports a multi-faceted approach to helping agencies of all sizes recruit and retain officers.

First Responder Buffer Zone Guidelines

Senate Article 4, Section 16, Subd. 1

The language would establish first responder buffer zone guidelines. This establishes guidelines to allow first responders to have space to address emergency situations when arriving at the location and gives responders the ability to do their job to the best of their ability.

Exemption for the Use of Mobile Tracking Devices

Senate Article 5, Section 16, Subd. 2c

This creates a clarification in statute to establish an additional exemption to allow police officers the ability to utilize mobile tracking devices on fleeing motor vehicles. Once a device is deployed, the officer is able to back off from the fleeing vehicle and avoid a high speed chase that would cause a threat to the community's public safety.

We thank both committees for their collaboration throughout this session and always appreciate engagement with MCPA. We look forward to working with members as this legislation progresses and beyond.

Respectfully,

Jeff Potts

Executive Director, Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association