



MINNESOTA CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION

DEDICATED TO THE IDEALS OF PROFESSIONAL POLICING

April 14, 2026

Re: MCPA Support for House File 1082, as amended

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

On behalf of more than 300 police chiefs across Minnesota, the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) writes in support of House File 1082, as amended. We appreciate the opportunity to submit written testimony and thank the committee for its continued collaboration throughout this session. We would like to highlight several provisions within the House Public Safety Finance Bill we strongly support.

Philando Castile Memorial Training Fund

MCPA supports the increase in funding for the Philando Castile Memorial Training Fund from \$4.9 million to \$6 million each year. This appropriation remains our top priority, as it is critical to ensuring law enforcement agencies can access reimbursement funds for required training. The state's continued investment in this fund directly supports officer preparedness, professionalism, and public safety.

Sale or Transfer of Law Enforcement Vehicle

We support the provisions that establish and set limitations regarding the sale or transfer of law enforcement vehicles. It is a necessary safeguard to require the removal of identifying insignia and equipment prior to transfer to the general public. The inclusion of civil penalties for noncompliance further strengthens this provision and helps prevent misuse and mistrust in our communities.

Impersonating a Peace Officer

MCPA strongly supports language addressing the impersonation of a peace officer. This provision represents a thoughtful and important step toward reinforcing the public trust that is essential to effective policing. Strengthening penalties and clearly affirming that impersonating a peace officer is a serious criminal offense will help deter individuals who may attempt to misuse the authority and appearance of law enforcement for fraudulent or harmful purposes. Clear statutory language protects both the public and the integrity of licensed peace officers.

We thank the Public Safety Committee for its inclusion of these provisions and always appreciate its 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