

May 5, 2021

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Via E-Mail Delivery

Senator Scott Newman, Chair Transportation Finance & Policy Minnesota Senate 3105Minnesota Senate Building St. Paul, MN 55155 Representative Frank Hornstein, Chair Transportation Finance & Policy Minnesota House of Representatives 545 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chairs Newman and Hornstein:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter in support of the Driver's License Suspension Reform bill included in the House Transportation Omnibus bill. We encourage the members of the conference committee to include the Driver's License Suspension Reform bill in the final Transportation conference report. This legislation, HF336/SF432, was authored by Rep. Jamie Becker-Finn and Senator Bill Ingebrigtsen and represents bipartisan work as well as agreement within the legislature and among a diverse group of stakeholders, including prosecutors, business, and criminal justice advocacy organizations.

Flint Hills Resources' parent-company, Koch Industries, has been engaged in common sense criminal justice reform efforts in Minnesota over the past several years. We know that the status quo in our criminal justice system is not working. The criminal justice system should protect people and secure public safety, give restoration to victims, remove barriers to opportunity for people with criminal records, and ensure equal justice for all.

Driver's licenses should be suspended when drivers have proven to be a danger to themselves or the public. The Drivers License Suspension Reform bill prohibits the suspension of a driver's license for unpaid traffic tickets and prohibits the "double stacking" of fees by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS). This legislation does not change driver's license suspensions for dangerous driving offenses.

This legislation leaves in place collection processes through state and local governments—a more effective tool for collecting unpaid fines and fees. Several states have passed driver's license reform bills including, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, California, Mississippi, Georgia, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, Oregon and New York.

Employers know that driver's licenses are necessary for employment, health care and other critical needs and that's why they should only be suspended when drivers have committed a serious public safety infraction.

We strongly encourage the conference committee to support and include the Drivers License Suspension Reform bill in the final conference report.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Heather N. Rein

Director, Community Affairs

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Flint Hill Resources

C: Senator John Jasinski
Senator Jeff Howe
Senator Dave Osmek
Senator Karla Bigham
Representative Erin Koegel
Representative Luke Federick
Representative Steve Elkins
Representative John Petersburg