



**WADENA COUNTY**  
**SHERIFF**  
*Michael D. Carr*

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*Working For You, Working With You.*

February 11, 2025

Representative Krista Knudsen  
2nd Floor, Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support of H.F. No. 131

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in support of Representative Knudsen's bill in H.F. No. 131. In reviewing the bill's details and proposed changes to statute 243.166, I am in agreement with the proposed language. By making this change, defendants are still allowed the opportunity to receive a stay of adjudication and avoid a formal conviction if their court-imposed conditions are successfully met.

While I do not necessarily have concerns with defendants receiving a stay of adjudication, I do have genuine concerns about these individuals being exempt from registration pursuant to §243.166 subd. 1b. Whether through a plea agreement or finding of guilt, the elements of the crimes alleged are proven beyond a reasonable doubt to a judge or jury. I believe the victims of these crimes deserve as much justice as possible, and allowing those found guilty of a qualifying crime that triggers registration to avoid the registration requirements fails to meet these protections and assurances to victims.

It is my belief that this change to §243.166 would still allow those found guilty of crimes triggering registration to receive their stay of adjudication and an opportunity to successfully complete probation. The change would also allow law enforcement the opportunity to ensure these individuals complete the minimum registration period of 10 years and continue to abide by the requirements of §243.166. The registration data is still private data pursuant to §243.166 subd. 7(a) so there should be no further detriment to the registrant, even if the registration period is still open after successfully completing probation.

I implore you to support this bill as it moves through the House so that future victims can have the assurance that their offenders will be monitored by law enforcement as allowed under §243.166.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Carr  
Wadena County Sheriff