



4700 Lyndale Ave N, Minneapolis, MN 55430-3638
phone 612-521-4200 • fax 612-521-0646 • 800-766-5483

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March 22, 2021

Subject: HF2295 - Bernardy:
Work Zone Safety Pilot Program

Chair Hornstein and Members of the House Transportation Committee,

I am writing this letter to convey my utmost support of HF2295. I have been in the Traffic Safety Industry for 30+ years. The first 10 years were spent working in the field and the last 20 I have spent supervising or managing the people that work in the field.

Throughout the past 10+ years I have been on several safety committees related to Work Zone Safety and the most common concern/issue discussed has always been speeding in work zones. On multiple occasions we thought we had solutions that were going to work but did nothing more than create more signing that people simply did not pay attention to let alone adhere too. Even though all these committees were comprised of a very diverse group of individuals (from field personnel to engineers to road authorities to law enforcement agencies) we were never truly successful in curbing speeding in work zones with static or dynamic signing unless there was an extraordinary enforcement element involved.

This past year I have heard from several of our field personnel about the excessive speeds in work zones, which has led to an unprecedented number of accidents/incidents within some of our work zones. One location alone has had over 50 incidents within the past year.

I believe passing this legislation give us a great opportunity to utilize new technology and provide visibility to whether this type of technology will truly work in reducing speeds in Work Zones.

Lastly, this could give us the tool we have been looking for to keep the 1000's of workers that spend their long summer days and nights working within feet of 60 to 70 mph traffic safer and give them a greater chance of going home to their family happy and healthy day in and day out.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation!

Sincerely,

Timothy R. Lewis
VP of Operations

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