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March 23, 2026

Representative Kelly Moller
Chair, House Public Safety Committee
5th Floor Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Paul Novotny
Chair, House Public Safety Committee
2nd Floor Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Moller, Chair Novotny, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Minnesota Department of Corrections, I want to acknowledge and thank all members of the House Public Safety Committee for your thoughtful efforts this session. We are grateful for the inclusion of House Files 3768 and 3769 in the Committee's public safety policy package.

As noted in testimony to the Committee, these bills will clarify and strengthen core health and safety practices and modernize key elements of facility licensing as it relates to juvenile facilities and halfway houses. These updates will help ensure our licensing framework is consistent and aligned with current standards to address both immediate safety issues and improve outcomes. The inclusion of these bills reflects the Committee's thoughtful commitment to enhancing public safety.

Thank you again for your continued dedication and for working closely with the Department of Corrections on these and other proposals during this session. We look forward to continuing this collaboration as we work together to support safe facilities and lasting public safety outcomes for Minnesotans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Schnell', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Schnell, Commissioner
Minnesota Department of Corrections