



MINNESOTA CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION

DEDICATED TO THE IDEALS OF PROFESSIONAL POLICING

January 7, 2015

Re: Increasing weight and length of tractor-trailer trucks

Dear Members of Minnesota's Senate and House of Representatives:

As the Executive Director of the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA), I am honored to represent more than 300 Police Chiefs and approximately 150 additional law enforcement leaders in communities large and small across the great state of Minnesota.

On behalf of our entire membership, I'm writing this letter to express our concern over anticipated proposals that would increase the weight and length of tractor-trailers. We believe that bigger trucks will pose a significant public safety threat to motorists and law enforcement officers who spend a significant portion of their jobs in their squad cars patrolling our roads.

According to 2013 research by the Multimodal Transportation & Infrastructure Consortium, heavier and longer trucks are likely to have greater fatal crash rates, tend to have a higher center of gravity - increasing the risk of rollovers - and have diminished braking performance than the most common trucks on Minnesota's roads today.

The MCPA's Legislative Committee has discussed this issue and will monitor any legislation introduced that would allow heavier and larger tractor-trailers on Minnesota roads.

We ask that you be cautious and thoughtful as you examine any provisions on this topic, and we urge you to continue to protect the men and women of local law enforcement and the motorists they serve.

Thank you,

Andy Skoogman
Executive Director
Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association
651-485-7667

