

MINNESOTA POLICE AND PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

525 Park Street, Suite 250 St. Paul, MN 55103-2145 Phone: 651-291-1119 Website: www.mppoa.com

March 25, 2021

To: Representative Carlos Mariani, Chair, Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy Committee and members

Re: Opposition to HF 1103 (Thompson), HF 1104 (Thompson), and HF 440 (Hollins)

Dear Chair Mariani and committee members:

The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA) represents Minnesota's 10,000+ public safety officials who hold active law enforcement licenses in the state of Minnesota. Members include police officers, correctional officers, dispatchers, and firefighters. The MPPOA is the largest association representing public safety professionals in the State of Minnesota.

MPPOA is writing to respectively convey our opposition to:

- HF 1103 (Thompson) Duties imposed on peace officers and law enforcement agencies regarding video and audio recordings of deadly force use, and civil remedy provided.
- HF 1104 (Thompson) Peace officer civil liability immunity prohibited
- HF 440 (Hollins) Peace officer professional liability insurance required, and peace officer liability established.

We support improving policing practices, particularly regarding ensuring greater transparency, accountability, and training in law enforcement. We have consistently advocated and supported these measures to make policing better and improve our profession.

Unfortunately, officers across the country have become targets both on- and off-duty. There is no place for discrimination within our ranks, but there is also no place for hostility toward those who have dedicated their lives to honor their oath of office to protect and serve the public.

Qualified immunity is an essential legal provision for government officials, including law enforcement, which balances the public interest and also helps build trust in police, as officers act in good faith to protect society. It is particularly essential in recruiting and retaining quality police offices.

Sincerely,

Brian Peters Executive Director Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association



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