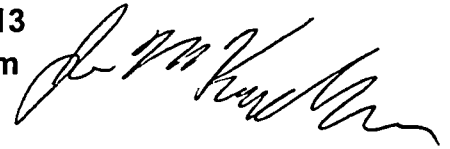


# John M. Kysylyczyn

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March 14, 2022  
Minnesota House  
Transportation Finance and Policy

In Opposition to HF2771  
In Opposition to DE1 amendment

Chair and Committee Members:

I am a homeowner who has lived on the same 40 mph Ramsey County road for the past 35 years. In earlier times, I walked this road after getting off the school bus. In more recent times, I have raised two children that I walked to elementary school every day, and who are now 16 and 18 years old.

I have also served as an elected official, and personally fielded requests to lower speed limits and install stop signs all over the city. In addition, I have been told that I am one of the only locally elected officials who have actually taken a class on traffic control devices (MN MUTCD) at the University of Minnesota.

Never once have I been concerned about the speed limit on my road or any other county road in my city, because limits are set based upon science, not the whims of politicians seeking to appease a handful of do-gooder citizens. What is highly dangerous, are suggestions that we set limits without conducting an engineering and traffic investigation.

My transportation viewpoint is also shared with that of the Association of Minnesota Counties. Their 2022 Legislative Policy Positions, page 26, clearly states:

*AMC supports policies that operate within the parameters of the current statewide variance process and maintain the MnDOT Commissioner's role in setting speed limits.*

One can also look towards other states for similar guidance. The City of Lincoln, NE states, "Traffic engineers use the 85th percentile speed as a standard to set the speed limit at a safe speed, minimizing crashes and promoting uniform traffic flow along a corridor." (see <https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/files/sharedassets/public/ltu/transportation/traffic-engineering/regulatory-speed-limits.pdf>)

Nowhere can I find someone identifying best practices as allowing politicians to set speed limits based upon what inherently would be political considerations that would run against a sound scientific analysis.

I would encourage committee members to soundly reject HF2771 as amended.