



Office of the Commissioner

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Chair Moller and Members of the House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee,

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) works to serve all communities and build a safer Minnesota. The investments included in the Governor's and Lt. Governor's public safety supplemental budget bill and this committee's bill comes after a historic public safety budget last year. Last year's public safety bill has already enhanced and will continue to enhance public safety all across Minnesota.

I appreciate this committee's commitment to funding crime victim services. Both this bill and the Governor's and Lt. Governor's bill provide a one-time boost to this fund. As you know, the level of funding for these vital services provided by the federal government has been dropping significantly and Minnesota has stepped up to assist with the gap. This bill ensures that funding will partially continue and help fund service providers for another year.

The changes made to the nonresponsible party fund eligibility will allow for the Urban Search and Rescue, and Minnesota Air Rescue teams to access funds needed when necessary. Updating the definition of Urban Search and Rescue keeps Minnesota in line with national standards and allows DPS to better classify the teams.

The updated administrative cost for the youth intervention program grant program is a small change but will have a significant impact. Grant programs are complex and work best when effectively managed. Changing the administrative costs to match similar grant programs will set DPS and the new Department of Children, Youth, and Families up for success when the program moves there in 2025.

This bill also takes on the difficult topics of domestic violence, firearms, and traffic stops, creating task forces led by DPS. These are challenging and complex issues facing our state, but we hope that task forces can bring the right stakeholders together to provide insights to legislators next session. Changes to traffic stops should be made with significant input from law enforcement and the community. The motoring public may not understand the differences between traffic stops within Chapters 168 and 169 vs. When other reasons may be present. These examples might include warrants or stops for wanted subjects.

- Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement
- Bureau of Criminal Apprehension
- Driver and Vehicle Services
- Emergency Communication Networks
- Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- Minnesota State Patrol
- Office of Communications
- Office of Justice Programs
- Office of Pipeline Safety
- Office of Traffic Safety
- State Fire Marshal

DPS supports this bill. We will continue to work with the bill author, committee members, and your remarkable staff to ensure this bill has all of the details right, can be effectively administered, and accomplishes the committee's goals. Thank you for your strong support of public safety. Working together to uplift the hardworking professionals who have chosen careers in public safety is critical.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Jacobson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "B" and "J".

Commissioner Jacobson
Minnesota Department of Public Safety