



February 23, 2026

Representative Ginny Klevorn
5th Floor Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support for House File 3404, as Amended - Impersonating a Peace Officer

Dear Representative Klevorn,

On behalf of the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association, the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association, and the Minnesota Sheriffs' Association, we write in support of House File 3404, as amended.

Minnesotans expect and deserve absolute confidence when an individual presents themselves, visually or verbally as a peace officer, that person is a duly licensed Minnesota peace officer. The trust between our communities and those who serve them is foundational to public safety. Our members depend upon that trust to perform their duties safely and effectively each day.

The horrific and politically targeted events of June 14, 2025, in which Speaker Emerita Melissa Hortman and her husband Mark were murdered and Senator John Hoffman and his wife Yvette were seriously injured, left a profound and lasting impact on our profession and our state. We remain deeply mindful of the loss suffered by their families, colleagues, and the entire Minnesota community. Law enforcement officers across Minnesota were especially troubled by the reported use of a police disguise in carrying out these crimes. Such deception not only facilitated violence but also struck at the heart of the public's trust in legitimate peace officers.

House File 3404 represents a thoughtful and important step toward reinforcing the public trust that is essential to effective policing. Our three associations support the intent of this legislation and its focus on strengthening penalties and clearly affirming that impersonating a peace officer is a serious criminal act. We believe these measures will help deter individuals who might seek to misuse the authority and appearance of law enforcement for fraudulent, dangerous, or violent purposes. Clear, well-understood statutory language, paired with meaningful consequences, serves to protect both the public and the integrity of licensed peace officers. While no single law can undo the harm caused by the June 14 tragedy, this bill is an important component of a broader effort to safeguard our communities and preserve the integrity of the law enforcement profession.

Our associations thank you for your work on this important issue and stand ready to assist as the amended House File 3404 moves forward in the legislative process.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Titus
Executive Director
Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association

Jeff Potts
Executive Director
Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association

James Stuart
Executive Director
Minnesota Sheriffs Association