



Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association
525 Park Street, Suite 250, Saint Paul, MN 55103-2145
Phone: 651.291.1119 Website: www.MPPOA.com

DATE: March 3, 2025

TO: House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee Chair, Representative Paul Novotny
DFL Lead Representative Kelly Moller
Representative Jeff Witte

RE: Support of House File 1401 (Witte): Definition of endangered expanded for purposes of the missing and endangered persons program.

Dear Representatives:

The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA) is the largest association representing public safety professionals in the State of Minnesota.

MPPOA supports House File 1401 (Witte): Definition of endangered expanded for purposes of the missing and endangered persons program. This would expand the alerts in the missing and endangered persons program to include those with dementia, a traumatic brain injury, Alzheimer's disease, or other cognitive impairments.

Most commonly known as a "Silver Alert," these are important for missing seniors because they help to quickly locate and protect people who are at risk of harm. Police would activate a Silver Alert when an elderly or cognitively-impaired person goes missing and is at risk.

Silver Alerts protect people with cognitive impairments, such as Alzheimer's disease or dementia, who may wander from home. Silver Alerts use media and technology to quickly inform the public about a missing person, who can then help search for the missing person. We are confident this can help save lives by increasing the chances of a safe return for missing people.

We'd like to acknowledge Representative Witte and co-author Koznick for authoring and supporting this bill.

Sincerely,

Brian Peters
Executive Director
Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association



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