

Sheriff Jason Kamerud

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(Non-Emergency)

March 3, 2025

House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee St. Paul, MN 55155

Attn. Rep. Andrew Myers

Dear Rep. Myers,

I am writing today in support of HF135, a bill designed to deter violent assaults against sheriffs and sheriff deputies working in county jails.

Facility safety is critical for all of those in the jail, including staff, visitors, and inmates. Violence against personnel working within a county jail, county regional jail, work farm / workhouse, or other local correctional facility is, sadly, increasingly commonplace. Any violence within the facility is detrimental to our mission of maintaining a safe, orderly, and secure facility.

Consecutive sentencing and loss of credit against the imposed sentence promotes staff and facility safety though improved offender accountability. It also promotes greater public safety through continued confinement of those convicted of assault who continue to act out violently even while incarcerated for their assaultive behavior.

I appreciate your efforts to enhance the safety of our county jails and staffing working within the facilities. This sort of legislation illustrates a commitment to the safety and security of correctional facilities throughout the state of Minnesota. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Jason Kamerud, Sheriff