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March 24, 2026

RE: Support HF 3155 (Tabke/Perryman) Gift card fraud inclusion in organized retail theft

On behalf of the above organizations representing businesses serving consumers across Minnesota, we write to express our support for HF 3155 (Tabke), legislation that addresses the growing problem of gift card tampering and fraud.

Gift card fraud has increasingly become a tool used by organized crime rings. Criminals steal gift cards from store racks, tamper with the packaging to obtain the card number and PIN, return the cards to retail displays, and then drain the funds once a consumer purchases and activates the card. The proceeds are often converted into merchandise that is resold or returned for profit.

This activity harms Minnesota consumers and those who sell and service gift cards. While the industry continues to invest heavily in prevention—through advanced detection technology, employee training, partnerships with law enforcement, and consumer awareness—there remains a gap in Minnesota law that makes it difficult to prosecute these enterprise-level crimes.

HF 3155 provides a straightforward solution by clarifying that gift card fraud and tampering, when done on an enterprise level, fall within Minnesota's organized retail crime statutes. Doing so will help ensure law enforcement has clear authority to investigate and prosecute these sophisticated schemes.

This legislation is an important step toward protecting consumers, strengthening Minnesota's response to organized retail crime, and safeguarding the integrity of Minnesota's marketplace.

We appreciate the authors' leadership on this issue and respectfully urge your support for HF 3155.