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*"Performance with Pride"*

March 22, 2021

Re: Work Zone Safety

Senator Howe,

I am writing this letter to hopefully convey my utmost support of HF2295 and SF2200. I have been in the Traffic Safety Industry for 30+ years. The first 10 years were spent working in the field and the last 20 I have spent supervising or managing those people that work in the field.

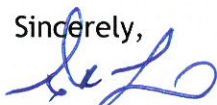
Throughout the past 10+ years I have been on several safety committees related to Work Zone Safety and the most common concern/issue discussed has always been speeding in work zones. On multiple occasions we thought we had solutions that were going to work but did nothing more than create more signing that people simply did not pay attention to let alone adhere too. Even though all these committees were comprised of a very diverse group of individuals (from field personnel to engineers to road authorities to law enforcement agencies) we were never truly successful in curbing speeding in work zones with static or dynamic signing unless there was extraordinary enforcement involved.

This past year I have heard from several of our field personnel about the excessive speeds in work zones, which has led to an unprecedented number of accidents/incidents within some of our work zones. One location alone has had over 50 incidents within the past year.

I believe passing this work zone pilot project legislation is a great opportunity to test automated speed enforcement and provide visibility to whether it would truly work here in Minnesota.

Lastly, this could give us the tool we have been looking for to keep the 1000's of workers that spend their long summer days working within feet of 70 - 80 mph traffic safe.....along with the safety of the traveling public.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation!

Sincerely,  
  
Tim Lewis

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