



To: Members of the Minnesota House of Representatives Public Safety and Criminal Justice Reform Finance and Policy Division

From: Minnesota Law Enforcement Coalition

Date: February 2, 2021

Members of the Committee:

We are writing on behalf of the three largest statewide law enforcement associations in Minnesota. Together the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA), the Minnesota Sheriffs' Association (MSA), and the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA) represent more than 300 police chiefs, 87 county sheriffs and approximately 10,400 rank-and-file officers respectively.

We thank Governor Tim Walz for including the State Aid for Emergencies (SAFE) initiative in his budget proposal and highlighting its importance to the public safety community. We support the Governor's bill language as introduced and we are grateful for the open conversations about this issue over the past month.

Our members remain concerned, however, that no matter what legislation is passed, the response for mutual aid will not be as robust as the public may expect. Our members' concern is due to the continued demonization of law enforcement officers by certain public officials at various levels of government.

Sincerely,

Brian Peters
Executive Director
Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association

Bill Hutton
Executive Director
Minnesota Sheriffs' Association

Jeff Potts
Executive Director
Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association