

Hello. I'm a resident of Minneapolis. I believe in a Minnesota where all of us can thrive, be safe in our homes and communities, and not fear abuse at the hands of law enforcement.

A badge shouldn't be a license to get away with murder (sometimes literally). Too often though, it seems as though that is the case. Too many of our neighbors, fellow Minnesotans, especially those in the Black, brown, and Indigenous communities have experienced profiling, dehumanization, aggressive force, and as we saw yet again this week, sometimes even death, at the hands of law enforcement.

We need the tools to hold police departments, and individual officers accountable to their oaths to protect and serve our communities. Everyone in our communities.

Bills like HF1104, HF640, and HF1103 are the bare minimum, beginning steps that we as a state need to take as we work towards a future where ALL of our neighbors are safe, treated with dignity, and are able to thrive. It's time for our law enforcement officials to be held accountable for their actions, just as the rest of us are held accountable in both our work and personal lives. Not only are these bills reasonable asks, they are necessities for the well-being of our state and everyone who lives here.

Hannah Merrill  
Minneapolis