



MINNESOTA POLICE AND PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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March 4, 2023

Dear Senator Pappas and Representative Lee:

The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA) represents Minnesota's 10,000+ public safety officials who hold active law enforcement licenses in the state of Minnesota. Members include police officers, correctional officers, dispatchers, and firefighters. MPPOA is the largest association representing public safety professionals in the State of Minnesota.

MPPOA supports HF966 and SF 910 a proposal requesting \$3.5 million in a one-time funding for the Firefighters for Healing Transitional Healing Center. Burn victims and firefighters from across the state use Hennepin County Medical Center to receive care, and this new, innovative center in downtown Minneapolis would fill serve the Midwest first responded community and supporter children and families who are burn trauma survivors.

On average, each year nearly 7,000 children and adults are treated for severe burns and burn trauma at the Hennepin Healthcare Burn Center and Regions Hospital in the Twin Cities alone. Across Minnesota, there are 22,000 first responders who respond to more than 16,000 fire-related incidents each year.

Unfortunately, there are limited resources and treatment options for burn survivors and first responders after discharge from the hospital. This Health Transitional Center would address the physical and psychological healing care that individuals and families require in the weeks, months and years following a burn trauma incident.

Thank you for your consideration is this importance resource for first responders.

Sincerely,

Brian Peters
Executive Director
Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association



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