

March 8, 2023

Chair Fong Hawj and Members of the Committee
Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee
Minnesota Senate

RE: Senate File 2570 – Snowmobiles

Dear Chair Hawj and Members of the Committee:

The National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) is a national, century-old, not-for-profit organization supported by approximately 1,200 property and casualty insurance companies, including many who write business in Minnesota. Working hand-in-hand with our member companies and Minnesota law enforcement, we help to detect, prevent, and deter insurance crimes, including vehicle and snowmobile theft. While NICB provides value to our member companies, we also serve a significant public benefit by helping to stem the estimated billions of dollars in economic harm that insurance crime causes to individual policyholders across the country every year.

According to NICB's most recent report regarding snowmobile theft, Minnesota ranked first overall in snowmobile thefts in the United States from 2019 to 2020. Minnesota reported 216 stolen snowmobiles during that timeframe. Snowmobiles have a low recovery rate. Recovery speed is important, with over 50% of recoveries taking place within two weeks of the reported date of theft and nearly two-thirds of recoveries taking place within 1 month of the reported theft date.

Senate File 2570 creates a snowmobile registration number decal and requires the decal be clearly displayed on each side. The bill provides law enforcement with the ability to track registration numbers to better identify and recover stolen snowmobiles.

Accordingly, we respectfully request your support for SF 2570.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at csepich@nicb.org or (847) 772-7667.

Sincerely,

Craig Sepich

Craig Sepich
Assistant Director
Office of Strategy, Policy, & Government Affairs
National Insurance Crime Bureau