

March 21, 2023

Dear Chair Dibble and Members of the Senate Transportation Committee

On behalf of the members of the Minnesota Transportation Alliance, I am writing in regard to SF2321, the Safe Roads Act.

Safety on Minnesota roadways continues to be a major problem and we applaud efforts to invest in strategies that will improve safety for all road users.

In particular, our members are concerned about safety in work zones. We strongly support language in SF2321 that allows for video camera enforcement of speed limits in work zones as well as the appropriation of \$300,000 per year from the general fund to the commissioner of transportation to make additions, modifications and alterations to work zone design or layout to reduce speeds in a work zone following a determination by the commissioner that the initial design or layout insufficiently provides for reduced vehicle speeds.

We also support the \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 from the general fund to the commissioner of transportation for roadway design and related improvements that reduce speeds on rural high-risk roadways and eliminate intersection interactions on rural high-risk roadways.

Improving safety to reduce fatalities and injuries on our roadways needs to be a top priority. We urge you to support legislation that will address safety problems on our roadways with targeted strategies that address a number of problem areas including safety in work zones.

Sincerely,

Margaret Donahoe Executive Director