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Driver and Vehicle Services

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Senator Ron Latz
Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee
Minnesota Senate Building
St. Paul MN 55155

February 1, 2023

Dear Chair Latz and Members of the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee:

I am writing this letter in support of HF4, Driver's Licenses for All. This initiative is included in the Governor's proposed budget and is a priority for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and the Department of Public Safety.

The Department of Public Safety Driver and Vehicle Services Division (DVS) supports expanding the availability of credentials to all Minnesota residents regardless of their ability to demonstrate legal presence. DVS recognizes the positive impact this will have on thousands of Minnesotans and how it can benefit the State.

DVS worked closely with the bill authors, legislative staff, and stakeholders to ensure that the data protections provisions in Article 2 effectively address concerns regarding sharing of applicant data while avoiding unintended consequences. DVS will update existing contracts with entities who access our data to ensure compliance with the proposed certification requirements and restrict access to certain entities as required by the bill.

DVS is supportive of the bill in its current form and can effectively administer it with the funding provided. DVS is confident having more licensed drivers on our roadways will make all Minnesotans safer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pong Senou Xiong".

Pong Senou Xiong
Director, Driver and Vehicle Services Division
Department of Public Safety