

**Senate Judiciary and
Public Safety Committee
March 6, 2023**

**Written Testimony of Matt Ehling
Board Member, Minnesota Coalition on Government Information**

Dear Chair Latz, Sen. Oumou Verbeten, and members of the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee,

The Minnesota Coalition on Government Information (MNCOGI) writes in regard to SF 1888. Specifically, we write in support of lines 2.17-2.22, which deal with the establishment of a presumptive 14-business day time frame for the public release of body camera footage documenting deadly force incidents involving peace officers.

MNCOGI has followed body camera issues closely since 2015 when the first bills were introduced to classify body-worn camera data, and we actively participated in the two-year negotiation process that resulted in the current body-worn camera statute (Minn. Stat. § 13.825).

Our organization has also consistently supported proposals meant to ensure public access to data that documents consequential activities undertaken by the government, including those instances in which government actors use deadly force.

MNCOGI supports the adoption of a standardized time frame for the public release of body-worn camera data that documents deadly force incidents, and we feel that the amendment's parameters in this regard (found in lines 2.17-2.22) are reasonable.

Sincerely,

Matt Ehling
MNCOGI board member