



March 16, 2023

Chair Ron Latz and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee and Public Safety Committee,

The Minnesotans for Lawsuit Reform (MnFLR) coalition appreciates the opportunity to comment on the delete-everything author's amendment to Senate File 1332.

Following several weeks of conversations and negotiations with Ron Elwood of Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid, MnFLR agreed to the language in the DE amendment.

We appreciate that the amendment narrows the scope of the bill to claims under the Consumer Fraud Act and does not amend Minn. Stat. 8.31. We also appreciate that the amendment clarifies that the allowable plaintiffs under the bill need to be "natural persons," meaning individual consumers, and cannot be businesses or commercial entities.

While MnFLR continues to have concerns that expanding plaintiff's access to attorney's fees, and moving away from twenty years of legal precedent related to the "public interest" test in the *Ly v. Nystrom* decision, will lead to more costly litigation and risks possible abuse by parties beyond those this bill is aiming to help, we agreed to this amendment to mitigate our even more serious concerns with S.F. 1332, as introduced.

Finally, we would like to thank Senator Latz for rescheduling this bill from an earlier committee meeting date, allowing more time for the parties interested in this legislation to continue discussions.

Respectfully,

Doug Grawe, CEO, The Grawe Group
Board Chair, Minnesota for Lawsuit Reform