



**FIRE
MARSHALS
ASSOCIATION OF
MINNESOTA**

March 28, 2023

Dear Chair Latz:

We, the Minnesota Fire Association Coalition (MNFAC) which is made up of the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association, the Minnesota State Fire Department Association, the Minnesota Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators, and the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota are writing to you to thank you for including the surcharge increase for the Fire Safety Account in your Senate Judiciary and Public Safety omnibus bill.

This provision, SF 2657, carried by Senator Seeberger and included in the Governor's public safety budget recommendations, will restore the Fire Safety Account to its original .65% surcharge. The Fire Safety Account funds critical components of the Fire Service including the Minnesota Board of Firefighter Training and Education, Statewide Response Teams that include Hazmat, the Task Force 1 Structural Collapse Team, and the Air Rescue Team, as well as the State Fire Marshal's Office. By returning the surcharge to the original level of .65%, this proposed increase would help to alleviate some of disinvestment that has occurred over the last 10 years. It will give a much-needed boost to each and every fire department across the state who rely on state help for training firefighters.

We deeply appreciate your support of this initiative.

Sincerely,

Chief BJ Jungmann
Legislative Chair, MNFAC