

To: Minnesota Senate Transportation Committee  
From: Rich Neumeister  
Re: SF 2026 A1 amendment (DE)

I oppose SF 2026 A1 (DE) because it does not take a comprehensive approach with the proposed scheme to address fairness, equitability, transparency and accountability. At least a thousand automatic law enforcement traffic cameras can be set up on fixed poles, mobile van units, and portable camera set ups on Minnesota roadways with this proposal.

The Minnesota Legislature last year recognized the need for a complete and thorough analysis of this unique enforcement of law which uses advanced technology because of the threats and concerns with rights and liberties by authorizing a legislative report due before the 2025 legislative session. (Chapter 68 Section 126 2023)

If one reviews the legislative report directions you'll note it is all-inclusive. To review and report for a comprehensive proposal for legislation. SF 2026 A1 (DE) does not meet that measure.

The proposal lacks, for example, robust reporting about the cash revenue gained, what is paid to the contractor, and other important information for the public to know. This would be part of an annual performance report done by the locality.

What I state in the above paragraph is one of several major components that an overall proposal should have. There are other basic parts of an automatic traffic law enforcement scheme which the proposal SF 2026 lacks and should address. Some of those are:

- addressing the type of technology used
- due process and constitutional concerns
- transparency and accountability
- enforcement of third party and their obligations such as data retention, sharing, use and destruction
- independent person to deal with erroneous citations rather than go through an administrative process
- how infraction which are minor are dealt such as with red light cameras
- placement of cameras which has been an issue across the country
- cash cow/revenue raiser for locality
- consequences if fine is not paid

What the legislation has become is an ongoing fast train which is not focused on a thorough legislative blueprint to address fairness, equitability, transparency and accountability for the state of Minnesota and for the 1000 robo-cop cameras minimum can be deployed.

My suggestion, halt the movement of the bill as it is now and wait for the legislative report later this year for the 2025 session. Or narrow the bill to a pilot study with two or three localities with specific outcomes and dynamics to measure and be reviewed.

This legislation is coming from the City of Minneapolis which will have a real impact on Minnesotans throughout the state. It is their perspective, not necessarily a balanced view with concerns and issues, their street surveillance automatic law enforcement scheme brings.