



March 14, 2024

Via E-Mail Delivery

Senator Ron Latz, Chair
95 University Ave W, Rm 3105
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Senator Warren Limmer, Republican Lead
95 University Ave W, Rm 2221
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Latz and Lead Limmer:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer support for SF 4363 (Oumou Verbeten) on behalf of the Justice Action Network (JAN), the nation's largest bipartisan organization that advocates for improvements to our criminal justice system. JAN works in 15 states across the country and at the federal level, and has been active in Minnesota since 2016.

SF 4363 provides important clarifications to legislation signed into law in Minnesota last year which codified the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission (MSGC) 2020 rule of capping probation sentences for most offenses to five years and applied those sentenced before that rule change. There were offenses that were exempted from this legislation last year, such as convictions for certain violent crimes. SF 4363 adds attempts and conspiracy to commit these certain violent crimes to the exemption list as well.

This legislation aids the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission and the Courts in order to prevent any unintended impact in sentencing.

JAN has supported Minnesota's work to cap probation at five years for most crimes, as is best practice in most states, and appreciates this bill as another necessary step for proper implementation.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact our organization's government relations representative, Chas Anderson at chas@parkstreetpublic.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny Catchings".

Jenny Catchings, State Policy Manager
Justice Action Network

C: Representative Jamie Long, House Majority Leader
Senator Clare Oumou Verbeten