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Apr 11, 2024

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

The MN Asphalt Pavement Association is a trade association that represents asphalt paving contractors who do work from driveways to freeways. Workzone safety is the number one priority of our association and members. Roadways are our workspace, and keeping our workers, as well as those who drive through those work zones, safe is tantamount to anything we do. We write this letter to support the passage of SF2026 (Mohamed).

A few years ago, MAPA and AGC organized a field trip for legislators to an active road transportation project to experience first-hand what those conditions are like. The vicinity and speed of some of the drivers is shocking, especially as we now experience so-called "super-speeders" who drive over 100mph.

We look at automated speed enforcement as the "holy grail" of workzone safety. If there is another strategy out there that can reduce workzone incidents by almost 50%, we'd like to know what that would be.

When proposals like these are passed over due to implementation logistics, it sends a message to our workers that their lives and safety isn't a priority. We encourage the committee to work through those implementation issues, allowing this mechanism that has demonstrated results of reducing crashes and fatalities to be implemented in Minnesota.

Please support SF 2026 and we'd like to thank Senator Mohamed for his leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Abigail Bryduck, Executive Director, MAPA