



April 11, 2024

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

On behalf of the member organizations of the Minnesota Transportation Alliance, including local governments, the transportation industry, labor, transit systems and businesses, I am writing to urge your support for SF2026, specifically the sections of the bill establishing a pilot project for the use of speed camera enforcement in highway work zones on the trunk highway system.

Across the country, a work zone crash happens every 5 ½ minutes, with 70 injuries a day and 12 fatalities a week. We believe the process and plan required by this legislation will lead to safer conditions in work zones and improve traffic safety.

In the last five years (2018-2022), preliminary data shows 44 people have died and more than 3,682 people have been injured in work zone traffic crashes.

According to a study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), the use of speed cameras in work zones in Maryland resulted in a 40% reduction in work zone fatalities and a 25% reduction in work zone crashes. Today, 23 states use work zone speed cameras.

Building on MnDOT's 2022 Work Zone Speed Management Study, which recommends a speed safety camera pilot in highway work zones, this legislation will allow the state to move forward in reaching its goals for reducing traffic injuries and fatalities.

The bill includes numerous provisions to ensure that the fines and enforcement measures are reasonable and fair for the driving public. Privacy concerns are addressed with provisions that require cameras to only capture license plates along with a schedule for retaining and destroying data.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Margaret Donahoe
Executive Director

Since 1893

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