



Senator Steve Green
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Building, Room
St. Paul, MN 55155

CC: Chair Founj Hawj, Environment, Climate, and Legacy Committee

Dear Senator Green,

On behalf of the Minnesota Sheriffs' Association, representing the 87 elected Sheriffs of Minnesota; the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association representing more than 300 Police Chiefs and 150 command staff; and the Minnesota Police and Peace Officer Association representing more than 10 thousand rank and file peace officers including sworn DNR-Conservation Officers, we write to express our opposition to SF 956.

This legislation unnecessarily limits the authority granted to licensed peace officers in the state of Minnesota, particularly those serving within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). DNR officers are fully licensed peace officers with statewide jurisdiction and are widely respected by law enforcement agencies throughout Minnesota. Their authority plays a crucial role in ensuring public safety, enforcing conservation laws, and supporting local law enforcement when needed.

Restricting the scope of authority for these officers undermines the cooperative efforts between law enforcement agencies and diminishes our collective ability to protect Minnesotans. The current framework ensures that all licensed peace officers, including DNR officers, can effectively uphold the law without unnecessary statutory limitations.

We urge you to reconsider and oppose SF 956 to preserve the integrity and effectiveness of law enforcement throughout the state. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter further and appreciate your attention to our concerns.

Sincerely,

James Stuart

James Stuart
Executive Director
Minnesota Sheriffs' Association

Jeff Potts

Jeff Potts
Executive Director
Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association

Brian Peters

Brian Peters
Executive Director
MPPOA