

March 7, 2025

The Honorable Senator Ron Latz Chair, Judiciary and Public Safety Committee Minnesota Senate Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155 The Honorable Senator Warren Limmer Ranking Minority Member, Judiciary and Public Safety Committee Minnesota Senate Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: SF 1291; Moose Lake Minnesota Sex Offender Program public safety costs appropriation

Chair Latz, Ranking Minority Member Limmer, and members of the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee,

I write to encourage your support of Senate File 1291, a bill that appropriates money to the Department of Public Safety for a grant to Carlton County to be used for law enforcement, prosecution, and litigation expenses arising from the actions of clients at the Minnesota Sex Offender Program facility at Moose Lake.

As you know, criminal prosecution is the domain of Minnesota's 87 elected county attorneys. These county attorneys do not lack for talent but may sometimes lack the resources and expertise to prosecute complex, violent crime when it occurs in their jurisdictions.

The work the Carlton County Attorney does in relation to the Minnesota Sex Offender Program facility at Moose Lake has created a need for increased funding to help the office do the legal work on these complex and important cases. In this case, a small amount of on-going funding could have a significant impact in enhancing public safety and ensuring accountability.

For these reasons, I encourage you to support Senate File 1291, and I commend you for the work you are doing to improve our justice system for all Minnesotans.

Sincerely,

Keith Ellison, Attorney General