



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

On behalf of the Minnesota Association of Professional Employees (MAPE)- represented staff working in the Minnesota Sex Offender Program (MSOP)- Moose Lake, we ask that you support S.F. 1291. This appropriation will help ensure the necessary resources are available to pursue justice for victims of assault at MSOP-Moose Lake and their families.

MSOP provides treatment to individuals who are deemed sexually dangerous persons or sexually psychopathic personalities. Staff at MSOP facilities work with at-risk populations to help rehabilitate their lives. However, the MSOP facility in Moose Lake experiences criminal offenses against staff, which have been prosecuted by the Carlton County Attorney's Office. Passing S.F. 1291 would help the Carlton County Attorney's Office to continue to investigate and prosecute these crimes and promote a safer workplace.

In addition to aiding the Carlton County Attorney's Offices ability to investigate and pursue these criminal offenses in court, the funding in S.F. 1291 will also allow the Carlton County Attorney's Office to hire additional specialized staff with experience in these often-unique cases. The appropriation sought in this legislation is essential in bringing in experts with the capability of successfully prosecuting these cases.

We ask you to stand in solidarity with both MAPE employees and our union siblings at AFSCME Local 1092 in the pursuit of this legislation. This is a step in the right direction to ensure we are addressing the issues at MSOP-Moose Lake.

Sincerely,

Tanner Fritsinger

Political Affairs Coordinator

Minnesota Association of Professional Employees (MAPE)