



MINNESOTA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

100 Empire Drive, Suite 222, St. Paul, MN 55103

Phone: 651.451.7216 Fax: 651.451.8087

Email: info@mnsheriffs.org

March 19, 2025

Senator Jeff R. Howe
Minnesota Senate Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Position Statement Supporting HF 286 – Background Checks for Political Subdivision

Dear Senator Howe,

On behalf of the elected sheriffs of the great state of Minnesota, I am writing to express their collective support of HF 286. The Minnesota Sheriffs' Association (MSA) recognizes that this bill will allow cities and counties to conduct a more thorough background check on individuals seeking a license to operate statutorily identified businesses or people seeking to be employed by those identified businesses.

Minnesota law does not currently allow law enforcement to complete nationwide criminal history checks on individuals identified in the proposed language. Giving the authority to complete these checks, in limited circumstances, could identify dangerous individuals, prevent victimization and subsequently improve public safety in communities throughout Minnesota.

We thank you for understanding our concern and appreciate your consideration in this important matter!

Respectfully,

James Stuart
Executive Director / CEO

CC: Chair Ron Latz, Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee