



March 31st, 2025

Honorable Senators Ron Latz and Warren Limmer
Minnesota State Senate
Chair and Ranking Minority Member, Judiciary and Public Safety Committee
Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Avenue West
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606

Dear Senators Latz and Limmer,

Subject: Statement in support of SF 1908

I am David Zimmer, Public Safety Policy Fellow with Center of the American Experiment, a position I have held for the past 3 years following a 33-year career as a peace officer with the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office.

I write in support of SF 1908 which would mandate the collecting, analyzing, and reporting of pre-trial release data on an annual basis.

As a conservative who values a consequential criminal justice system, I also recognize that there is room for improvement regarding Minnesota's constitutionally mandated "cash only" bail option.

I'm in favor of ensuring a standardized public safety threat evaluation tool is used for pre-trial release decisions.

The data collected, analyzed and reported on in response to SF 1908 would inform policy makers of pre-trial release outcomes, and ultimately help determine if any changes to Minnesota's pre-trial release process are warranted.

I caution the committee to ensure research funds are used judiciously and that every effort is made to direct these funds to efforts that are truly non-partisan, and unlikely to deliver a pre-determined outcome.

Sincerely

David P. Zimmer

David Zimmer
Public Safety Policy Fellow