1919 University Ave. W., Suite #500, Saint Paul, MN 55104
1-866-554-5381 | TTY: 1-877-434-7598 | aarp.org/mn | mn@aarp.org

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Instagram: @aarpminnesota | LinkedIn: AARP Minnesota

AARP Written Testimony in Support of SF 4687
Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee
March 27, 2026

Chairs Klein and Committee Members,

AARP Minnesota respectfully urges support for SF 4687. The bill improves the sustainability of the Consumer Protection Restitution Account—a bipartisan success story already serving consumer fraud victims. Thank you for taking this bold, nation-leading step last session. SF 4687 improves the law to be more fair and sustainable.

First, the bill removes the annual limit on revenue into the fund. AARP advocated for this limit last session as a self-restraint to prove that the fund could be set up properly, cases would be received, and funding could get to victims as intended before asking the Legislature to increase the annual limit. The fund has proven to do each of these things successfully. This annual limit applies to fund revenue sourced by consumer enforcement public compensation and is not forecasted because it is unpredictable and considered windfall funds. This bill preserves the rule that fifty percent of funds must continue to go to the general fund and does not require an appropriation. This change is needed to ensure that the fund adequately serves fraud victims into the future.

Second, the bill limits the maximum amount of restitution an individual can receive. This section is in response to bipartisan calls for a reasonable limit. Without this change, the law prescribes that eligible consumers must be paid out in full, meaning that one individual who lost one million dollars could receive full restitution while those who lost significantly less are forced to wait or never receive restitution at all.

On behalf of our more than 620,000 members statewide, thank you for considering SF 4687. For further discussion, please contact AARP Minnesota State Advocacy Director, Thomas Elness, at telness@aarp.org.



Cathy McLeer, State Director
AARP Minnesota