

MINNESOTA DUTY DISABILITY ASSOCIATION



April 15, 2023

Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association
525 Park Street, Suite 250
Saint Paul, Mn 55103

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Dear MPPOA Board:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Minnesota Duty Disabled Association, which represents over 800 duty-disabled first responders in our state. As the President of this

organization, I am deeply disappointed with the Minnesota Peace and Police Officer Association's recent decision to support HF1234/SF1959.

As a dues-paying member of your organization for 31 years, and a disabled police officer myself, I feel that the Minnesota Peace and Police Officer Association has thrown both its currently and potentially disabled members under the bus. The bill will financially cripple many of our members, reneging on the promise of what their calculated wages should be when they retired. It is disheartening to see the association that is supposed to represent and support all police officers in Minnesota taking a stance that will harm a significant portion of its members. In addition to our disabled members, we represent active members that care about their future, and know that they could be disabled in an instant, in an inherently dangerous line of work.

As an organization that is dedicated to the welfare and well-being of duty-disabled first responders in Minnesota, we urge you to reconsider your support for HF1234/SF1959. The bills will have a devastating impact on our members and their families, who rely on the support of the association to help them through difficult times.

Furthermore, it is our position that the bills are written to address, minimally, an *exaggerated*, and at worst, *erroneous* issue with the current state of the pension fund. By punishing our members, retroactively, they permanently address a problem that is not really a problem, and if it is, the problem is temporary.

We believe that it is essential for the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association to stand up for the rights of all its members, regardless of their disability status. We strongly condemn the association's decision to support this bill and urge you to reconsider your stance on this issue.

In closing, I would like to remind you that the Minnesota Duty Disabled Association is committed to advocating for the rights and well-being of our disabled first responders. We hope that you will join us in this important mission and work towards a better future for all police officers in our state.

We are urging all of our members to disassociate ourselves from an organization that we feel no longer represents us.

Respectfully Disappointed,

Charles "Chuck" Gollop

President, Minnesota Duty Disabled Association