



May 7, 2026

Chair Latz and Chair Novotny  
Members of the Public Safety Policy Conference Committee

**RE: SF 4760 – Public Safety Policy**

Dear Chair Latz, Chair Novotny, and Members of the conference committee,

On behalf of our 842 member cities, the League of Minnesota Cities thanks you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SF 4760 the Public Safety Policy bill.

While many provisions in these bills are of importance to cities, we are writing to highlight the League's support for the following provisions:

- The establishment of a task force to study the Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response (ARMER) responsible for recommending a statewide, state-funded framework (page R120 through R123).
- Evidence of rehabilitation provisions, specifically the sections contained in the House version on page R65 through R67 lines 50.12 through 52.5.

The League has concerns about the provisions related to expanding eligibility for public safety officer death benefits found on pages R115 to R120. Below are two concerns about this legislation that have been identified. The League respectfully requests that this legislation not be enacted before there is time to carefully consider and address the fiscal and policy implications.

1. The dependent health care obligation under Minn. Stat. § 299A.465 would apply to employers if an officer dies from one of the specified cancers. Minn. Stat. § 299A.465 provides that health insurance for dependents must be provided “when a peace officer, firefighter, or volunteer firefighter is killed while on duty and discharging the officer's, firefighter's, or volunteer firefighter's duties as a peace officer, firefighter, or volunteer firefighter.” While the state is currently reimbursing employers for the cost of this benefit, the \$100 million one-time appropriation for this purpose in 2023 has been depleted to approximately one-third of the appropriation. Our concern is the financial burden of this statutorily required benefit will revert to employers in the absence of an ongoing state appropriation.
2. The bill comes close to creating a presumption that most cancers are work-related if the employee is a public safety officer, even though it is difficult to definitively prove a specific cancer was caused by firefighting rather than other factors, such as genetics, smoking, alcohol use, or lifestyle choices. Additionally, many paid on-call firefighters have outside employment where they may encounter carcinogens that are unrelated to public safety work.

The League stands ready to be part of any discussions as the bill advances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Anne Finn'.

Anne Finn  
Intergovernmental Relations Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tori Kee'.

Tori Kee  
Intergovernmental Relations Representative