

Minnesota Business Immigration Coalition

18 March 2015

Dear Chair Dibble,

On behalf of the Minnesota Business Immigration Coalition, we respectfully urge you to amend and support SF224.

SF224 is important to employers across the state, as many rely on an immigrant workforce able to operate legally and safely on Minnesota roads. This legislation improves public safety by requiring unauthorized immigrants to prove their identity and residency, pass a driving test, and secure vehicle insurance before driving.

It would allow for verification of drivers' identities for law enforcement officials and increase the number of drivers on Minnesota roads who have insurance.

In short, SF224 improves public safety on our roads and highways.

Ten states have passed laws to require undocumented drivers to pass a driver's test.¹ Almost all of these laws created a limited provision of driving privileges only. At least ten states are considering similar proposals.

The suggestion we have is that the bill be amended to clearly convey only driving privileges. Last year the Senate passed SF271, granting driving privileges only. SF224 is currently broader; however, we hope your committee reaches the same practical, limited solution as the Senate arrived at last year.

There are various ways to ensure that the driver's document is limited to driving privileges only, whether the document itself states "for driving only", indicates "status check", or has some other marking. We are committed to working with advocates and the authors to find the best way to create a limited license.

¹ National Immigrant Law Center. Current & Pending State Laws & Policies on Driver's Licenses for Immigrants. March 2014. <http://www.nilc.org/DLaccessstoolkit2.html#table>.

On behalf of the Minnesota Business Immigration Coalition, we respectfully urge you to support and amend SF224.

Sincerely,



Perry Aasness
Executive Director
Minnesota Agri-Growth Council



Bill Blazar
Interim President
Minnesota Chamber of Commerce



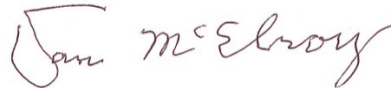
Nick George
President
Midwest Food Processors Association



Cassie Larson
Executive Director
Minnesota Nursery & Landscape Association



Bob Lefebvre
Executive Director
Minnesota Milk Producers Association



Dan McElroy
Executive Vice President
Minnesota Lodging Association
Minnesota Restaurant Association

CC: Members of the Senate Transportation and Public Safety Committee

[Minnesota Agri-Growth Council](#) ◦ [Minnesota Chamber of Commerce](#) ◦ [Minnesota Lodging Association](#)
[Minnesota Milk Producers Association](#) ◦ [Midwest Food Processors Association](#) ◦ [Hospitality Minnesota](#)
[Minnesota Restaurant Association](#) ◦ [Minnesota Nursery & Landscape Association](#)