



September 19, 2023

Representative Laurie Pryor, Education Policy Committee Chair  
Representative Cheryl Youakim, Education Finance Committee Chair  
Representative Kelly Moller, Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee Chair

**RE: School Resource Officers**

Chairs Pryor, Youakim, and Moller:

The Maple Grove Police Department announced yesterday that it is the latest law enforcement agency to pull its school resources officers (SRO) from the Maple Grove and Osseo schools, citing the lack of clear statutory authority to carry out their responsibilities to keep students, staff, and the school community safe. To date, more than 30 law enforcement agencies have pulled their SROs from schools. It is incumbent upon the Legislature to act quickly to resolve this issue.

And with peace officers now facing licensing sanctions from the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Board because of the changes to the SRO law, we expect more law enforcement agencies to pull their SROs from schools so as to not place their personnel in an untenable situation.

In addition to the need for Governor Tim Walz to call a special session to fix the law you passed last legislative session, we call upon you, the leaders of the education and public safety committees, to hold a hearing and invite law enforcement leaders to participate and help in crafting language that addresses the shortcomings of the recently revised law.

We stand at the ready to be a part of the solution in addressing the poorly vetted language in statute so law enforcement agencies will return their SROs to school to help keep students, teachers, and staff safe and maintain an environment where students can learn.

Sincerely,

Representative Peggy Bennett  
Education Policy Committee Lead

Representative Ron Kresha  
Education Finance Committee Lead

Representative Paul Novotny  
Public Safety Committee Lead

Minority Leader Lisa Demuth  
Minnesota House of Representatives

CC: Speaker Melissa Hortman