

January 13, 2019

To: Representative Kim Koppelman

From: Chief Jason Olson

Minot Police Department

Ref: HB 1255

This letter is in support of HB 1255 which is the bill which would expand the powers of railroad police to be able to enforce not on felonies and misdemeanors that involve railroad property but would add the ability to enforce infractions such as “trespassing on railroad property” and traffic violations such as crossing arm violations.

This bill would serve to enhance public safety by allowing better enforcement of some very unsafe behavior such as disregarding crossing arms at railroad crossings.

I see it as a win-win and without any negative repercussions that I am aware of. The railroad police are excellent public safety partners to local law enforcement. This bill will make them more effective at carrying out their duties.

Thank you.

V/R

Chief Jason Olson

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