



February 19, 2025

Representative Peggy Scott

2nd Floor, Centennial Office Building.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Scott and House Judiciary and Civil Law Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on House File 768 (HF 768). The Minnesota Department of Human Rights (MDHR) shares the goal of ensuring agency data is strictly regulated. However, the language proposed under HF 768 would be challenging to implement given MDHR's existing legal obligations and is also unnecessary. This is because any data received by MDHR is already strictly regulated under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. ch. 13, and the Minnesota Human Rights Act. This includes specific classifications for investigative data gathered by the department as part of a civil rights investigation, as well as data submitted by businesses contracting with the state as part of the compliance certification process.

This said, MDHR is happy to work with the author on alternative language that more directly affirms any data collected under 363A.06 sub. 1(20) is only aggregate data, with no private, confidential non-investigative data on any individual governed by the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. ch. 13, and the Minnesota Human Rights Act.

Please feel free to contact Nico Bauer (nico.bauer@state.mn.us), MDHR's Government Relations Director, with any questions.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Lucero
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Human Rights