



March 25,2025

TO: Members
House of Representatives Transportation Policy and Funding Committee

FROM: Minnesota Association for Pupil Transportation

RE: Support for HF 1950 (Bakeberg)

The Minnesota Association for Pupil Transportation strongly supports HF 1950 (Bakeberg). The bill would increase fines for repeat offenders of Minnesota's school bus stop-arm law. There have been efforts over the past few years to bring greater attention to Minnesota's school bus stop-arm law to lessen the number of occurrences where vehicles ignore an extended school bus stop-arm when the bus is being loaded or unloaded. While these efforts have met with some success, Representative Bakeberg's bill is another step in the right direction for making school bus passengers safer by raising fines for repeat offenders. This should provide a greater incentive for drivers to be aware of the school bus stop-arm law and reduce instances where the law is disobeyed.

Ideally, fines collected from school bus stop-arm violations would be used for other initiatives—public service announcements, stop-arm cameras, etc.—that create greater awareness throughout the public of the importance of understanding of the law and, in the case of stop-arm cameras, make enforcement more effective.

MAPT would like to thank Representative Bakeberg for his efforts on this issue. If committee members have further questions, contact our lobbyist Brad Lundell at lundelllegislative31@gmail.com or 612-220-7459