

**Senator Warren Limmer**  
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**Senate**

State of Minnesota

September 19, 2023

Senator Ron Latz  
3105 MN Senate Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
[ronl@senate.mn](mailto:ronl@senate.mn)

Dear Senator Latz,

With the continuing confusion surrounding the changes to Student Resource Officers this session, I'm writing to request an informational hearing of the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee to review the changes made and allow interested stakeholders an opportunity to weigh in.

As you know, the bill specific to the changes did not get referred to or heard by our committee. However, since it directly impacts the guidelines around law enforcement use of force, I would hope you would find it wise to allow our members a chance to learn more about this issue, and potentially, prepare for any special session that may be called to address the issue.

Unfortunately, opinions from the Attorney General's office has not provided the level of clarification and protection our law enforcement partners require. In fact, we are seeing more schools change or end their contract with SROs as the ramifications of the law change become clearer. Recently, several police departments, including Apple Valley, Maple Grove, and White Bear Lake, all made decisions to remove SROs because of the new law, putting thousands more students at risk due to this year's legislative changes. As the school year progresses, I worry the student violence we have seen in Mankato East and Park Center high schools will become more common, putting students' health, safety, and general well-being in peril.

Student safety is a top priority for everyone. We must help return SROs back into schools that want them. The 2022 Student Survey showed that over [90% of students](#) from grades 8-11 with an SRO at their school agree or strongly agree that having an SRO is a good idea. We owe it to students, parents, and school educational staff to move quickly to solve the issue around SROs.

An informational hearing will provide the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee members the information from all the stakeholders in order to find the best way to correct the problem and keep our kids safe. I am ready to assist in any way necessary to help with an informational hearing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Warren Limmer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail.

Senator Warren Limmer  
Ranking member, Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail.

Senator Mark Johnson  
Minority Leader