

2026 Legislative Session MCPA Update

Week of April 13

Overview

On April 17 at 5 p.m., finance bills were required to pass out of most committees, with the exception of Capital Investment; Taxes; Ways and Means or Finance; and Rules and Legislative Administration. This year differed from previous years. Typically, each committee advances an omnibus bill by the Friday 5 p.m. deadline.

In the House, the only omnibus finance bills approved before the deadline were from the Human Services, Health, Workforce, Higher Education, and Public Safety committees. In the Senate, omnibus finance bills advanced from Agriculture; Commerce; Education Finance; Energy; Environment and Legacy; Health and Human Services; Housing and Homelessness Prevention; Human Services; Jobs and Economic Development; Labor; State and Local Government; and Transportation.

With the deadline now passed, most committees have concluded their work for the remainder of the session, aside from those exempt from the deadline. The next step is for committee omnibus bills to move through the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee. From there, omnibus and individual bills will advance to the floor of each chamber for a vote. Any differences between House and Senate versions will be resolved in conference committee. For omnibus finance bills that have advanced in only one chamber, the other chamber must engage in the process and pass corresponding language before the legislation can become law.

Committees of Interest

House Public Safety Committee

On Tuesday the House Public Safety Committee did a walkthrough of [their omnibus finance bill](#). On Wednesday, the committee adopted amendments to the omnibus finance bill and passed the bill out of committee and referred it to the House Ways and Means Committee. MCPA [submitted a letter of support](#) noting items in particular that support items from the Association's legislative agenda.

The House Public Safety Omnibus Finance Bill includes the following provisions of interest:

- **Philando Castile Memorial Training Fund:** Increase in funding for the Philando Castile Memorial Training Fund from \$4.9 million to \$6 million each year.
- **Sale or Transfer of Law Enforcement Vehicle:** Establishes and sets limitations regarding the sale or transfer of law enforcement vehicles, such as requiring the removal of identifying insignia and equipment prior to transfer to the general public. It also includes civil penalties for noncompliance.
- **Impersonating a Peace Officer:** Strengthens penalties and clearly affirming that impersonating a peace officer is a serious criminal offense. Clear statutory language protects both the public and the integrity of licensed peace officers.

They also heard [HF4810](#) (Stier), that was [amended](#) to establish a task force to establish a statewide network funding for public safety radio communication infrastructure. The task force seeks to

respond to the state of the ARMER network. The committee also heard [HF4597](#) (Witte), that provides funding for the development and implementation of a unified 911 center awareness platform that allows 911 centers to communicate and coordinate emergency responses. MCPA [submitted a letter of support](#) for both of these bills noting the importance of a robust communications system statewide.

The last bill on the agenda on Wednesday was [HF3230](#) (Moller), that was the Capitol, Legislative, and Courts Security Bill that was laid over. This hearing marks the final hearing for the House Public Safety Committee for the biennia, unless the co-chairs choose to schedule an additional hearing.

House Judiciary and Civil Law Committee

On Thursday, the Judiciary and Civil Law Committee took up [HF962](#) (Novotny), that serves as the Brady-Giglio bill moving this session, for the third time. The bill passed out of committee and has been referred to the House Ways and Means Committee. This also serves as this committee’s last scheduled hearing.

The bill would put in statute the definition of what is deemed “Brady-Giglio Material” and seeks to establish a process for the prosecuting authority provided protection of accessed data, in relation to Brady Giglio material. The bill language reflects stakeholder agreed on language from Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association, Law Enforcement Labor Services, Minnesota Sheriffs’ Association, Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association, and the Minnesota County Attorney’s Association. The bill received a [fiscal note](#) from the Judicial Branch that estimates the changes this bill would bring to the judicial process would cost around \$3 million dollars. Legislative authors have met with the Judicial Branch to try and seek further understanding of their cost estimate and to provide the Branch with additional context around the legislation.

Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

On Friday, April 17 the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee heard a number of bills pertaining to their jurisdiction with two of particular interest to MCPA, the first being on automatic license plate readers (ALPR) and the second that would seek to develop a process for Brady Giglio defined material.

[S.F. 4739](#) (Oumou Verbeten) seeks to further regulate data from ALPRs, the language was slightly modified by the adoption of the [A2 amendment](#). The bill seeks to require an annual audit of ALPR records to determine whether data currently in the records are classified, how the data are used, whether they are destroyed as required, and to verify compliance. The bill would further only allow ALPR data to be shared with a separate law enforcement agency if there was a written data-sharing agreement with that agency. The bill was laid over for further committee discussion.

[S.F. 325](#) (Koran) reflects agreed on language from a working group made up of law enforcement groups and county attorneys. The bill seeks to regulate the process by which prosecuting agencies place and remove peace officers from Brady-Giglio designation. The committee heard from an array of testifiers in support of the language and the importance of developing a process for instances regarding potential Brady Giglio material. The only in person testimony in opposition to the bill was the ACLU, the bill also received written testimony [in opposition from the League of Minnesota Cities](#) regarding on portion of the bill that would prohibit the use of a “do not call list” for certain public employees. A prosecuting authority would not be able to create or establish a blanket do not use or

do not call list, status, or designation for public employees because a determination must be case specific.

MCPA submitted a [letter of support](#) for SF325 as amended and testified in person in support of the bill and the development of a process for this issue. After a long committee discussion and many questions for testifiers, the bill passed as amended and was referred to the Finance Committee.

MCPA Legislation of Interest

Supplemental Funding for the Philando Castile Memorial Training Fund

[HF4700](#) (Stier) / [SF4899](#) (Seeberger)

- The amended House language included in the [Public Safety Omnibus Finance Bill](#) increases funding for the Philando Castile Memorial Training Fund from \$4.9 million to \$6 million each year.

Status:

- House: Included in the [Public Safety Omnibus Finance Bill](#)
- Senate: Prepared to be taken up in the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

Enhanced Penalties For Illegal Firearm Possession

[HF4699](#) (Stier) / [SF4910](#) (Howe)

1. Enhance the crime of illegal possession of a firearm from a gross misdemeanor to a felony
2. Establish enhanced penalties for illegal gun possession or use if the violation is committed by a person in a school zone, park zone, or public housing zone
3. Increase penalties for violent felons in possession of firearms and for straw purchases and illegal sales of firearms from licensed gun dealers

Status:

- House: Prepared to be taken up by the Public Safety Committee
- Senate: Prepared to be taken up by the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

Revisions to the Extreme Risk Protection Orders Statute

[HF3658](#) (Frazier) / [SF4703](#) (Latz)

1. Removes the requirement for agencies to compensate for confiscated or surrendered firearms
2. Allows for the immediate seizure of firearms when a non-emergency ERPO is served with a search warrant
3. Allows for orders issued after the hearing to be served on the respondent electronically or by first class mail, rather than by person

Status:

- House: Passed through committees of jurisdiction with bipartisan support and is prepared to be taken up on the House floor

- Senate: Passed through committees of jurisdiction and is prepared to be taken up on the Senate floor

Increase in Penalty for Impersonating a Peace Officer

[HF3404](#) (Klevorn) / [SF3735](#) (Hoffman)

1. Increases the criminal penalty for impersonating a peace officer
2. Establishes a crime of impersonating a peace officer while possessing a firearm
3. Establishes enhanced penalties for persons presenting as peace officers
4. Requires licensed peace officers to fulfill duty to identify when requested

Status:

- House: Passed through all committees of jurisdiction with bipartisan support and is prepared to be taken up on the House floor. Also included in the [Public Safety Omnibus Finance Bill](#)
- Senate: Prepared to be taken up by the Finance Committee

Prohibit the Display or Use of Law Enforcement Equipment on Non-Law Enforcement Vehicles

[HF3356](#) (Huot) / [SF4235](#) (Hoffman)

1. Prohibits sale or transfer of a law enforcement vehicle that is equipped with emergency or public safety equipment and insignia that could misleadingly identify it as a law enforcement vehicle
2. Certificate of compliance. Requires a certificate of compliance accompanying sale or transfer of a law enforcement vehicle. Directs the Department of Public Safety to design the certificate and make it available online without charge
3. Establishes liability and civil penalties for sale or transfer of a law enforcement vehicle in violation of the marking and equipment limitations
4. Provides explicit authority for county and city attorneys to bring a civil lawsuit for a violation of this section
5. Creates an exemption for vehicles registered as a collector’s item

Status:

- House: Prepared to be taken up by the Ways and Means Committee. Also included in the [Public Safety Omnibus Finance Bill](#)
- Senate: Prepared to be taken up by the Finance Committee

Eliminate PERA Re-Employment Penalty After Retirement

[HF4326](#) (Stier) / [SF4499](#) (Seeberger)

1. Discontinue the penalty on re-employment after the PERA pension draw from the first retirement
2. As state statute stands today, any former law enforcement officer drawing a PERA pension is barred from working in a PERA-eligible job—whether as a school bus driver, teacher, para-professional, city employee, or even in another law enforcement or public safety role
3. It will allow PERA pensioners to return to work without financial punishment

Status:

- Prepared to be taken up by the joint Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement

Police Officer Brady-Giglio Process

[HF962](#) (Novotny) / [SF325](#) (Koran)

1. Creates a statutory definition of "Brady-Giglio material"
2. Seeks to regulate the process by which prosecuting agencies place and remove peace officers from Brady-Giglio designation.
3. Instructs all prosecuting authorities in Minnesota to implement a written policy to guide the process of seeking and reviewing personnel data, and disclosing personnel data if determined to be Brady-Giglio material in all criminal actions in Minnesota
4. If a prosecutor relies on an officer with a Brady-Giglio designation to prosecute a case, the prosecutor must disclose to the accused the evidence that warranted the Brady-Giglio designation
5. Clarifies data retention and sharing for Brady-Giglio material by prosecutors

Status:

- House: Prepared to be taken up by the Ways and Means Committee.
- Senate: Prepared to be taken up by the Finance Committee