

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

09-0170R

RESOLUTION ADDING AN INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT MINNESOTA SENATE BILL S.F. NO. 847 CREATING A LICENSE REINSTATEMENT DIVERSION PILOT PROGRAM TO THE CITY'S LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR 2009.

CITY PROPOSAL:

WHEREAS, a bill has been introduced in the Minnesota Senate, S.F. No. 847, a copy of which is on file in the office of the city clerk as Public Document No. _____, which would establish a pilot program for the cities of Duluth, St. Paul, Inver Grove Heights, West St. Paul and South St. Paul for managing cases involving persons who are arrested for driving with an invalid license and helping these persons to become valid drivers; and

WHEREAS, the city of Duluth attorney's office has consulted in the development of the pilot program and believes the program would greatly benefit community safety in the city of Duluth by providing prosecutors with an effective tool for handling these difficult cases.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that an initiative to support Minnesota Senate Bill S.F. No. 847, creating a license reinstatement diversion pilot program, be added to the city legislative priorities agenda for 2009.

Approved:

Approved for presentation to council:

Department Director

Chief Administrative Officer

Approved as to form:

Approved:

Attorney

Auditor

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution adds an initiative to the city's legislative priorities agenda for 2009 to support Minnesota Senate Bill S.F. 847 creating a license reinstatement diversion program.

According the department of public safety there are currently 221,268 people in the state of Minnesota who currently have an invalid driver's license. Many of those people continue to drive without a valid license and many individuals are repeatedly arrested for this offense. According to a *Star Tribune* article entitled "Behind Bars, Then Back Behind the Wheel" dated March 1, 2008, 14,091 people in Minnesota have been cited five or more times for not having a license or from having it withdrawn. This bill is a new approach to this recurring problem.