

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION**

S.F. No. 4739

(SENATE AUTHORS: OUMOU VERBETEN)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/23/2026	6914	Introduction and first reading Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to government data practices; enhancing restrictions on automated license

1.3 plate reader data; centralizing automated license plate reader data in the Bureau

1.4 of Criminal Apprehension; regulating the use of automated license plate readers

1.5 by private entities; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 13.824, subdivisions

1.6 1, 2, 3, 7, by adding a subdivision; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota

1.7 Statutes, chapters 299C; 325M.

1.8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.9 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 13.824, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.10 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have

1.11 the meanings given.

1.12 (b) "Automated license plate reader" means an electronic device mounted on a law

1.13 enforcement vehicle or positioned in a stationary location that is capable of recording data

1.14 on, or taking a photograph of, a vehicle or its license plate and comparing the collected data

1.15 and photographs to existing law enforcement databases for investigative purposes. Automated

1.16 license plate reader includes a device that is owned or operated by a person who is not a

1.17 government entity to the extent that data collected by the reader are shared with a law

1.18 enforcement agency. Automated license plate reader does not include a traffic safety camera

1.19 system.

1.20 (c) "Law enforcement agency" means a law enforcement agency of the state or a political

1.21 subdivision.

1.22 ~~(e)~~ (d) "Traffic safety camera system" has the meaning given in section 169.011,

1.23 subdivision 85a.

2.1 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 13.824, is amended by adding a subdivision to
2.2 read:

2.3 Subd. 1a. **Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to act as central repository of data.** All
2.4 data collected, created, or received by an automated license plate reader must be maintained
2.5 by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension under section 299C.158. The bureau shall allow
2.6 a law enforcement agency to access the data consistent with this section.

2.7 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 13.824, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

2.8 Subd. 2. **Data collection; classification; use restrictions.** (a) Data collected by an
2.9 automated license plate reader must be limited to the following:

2.10 (1) license plate numbers;

2.11 (2) date, time, and location data on vehicles; and

2.12 (3) pictures of license plates, vehicles, and areas surrounding the vehicles.

2.13 Collection of any data not authorized by this paragraph is prohibited.

2.14 (b) All data collected by an automated license plate reader are private data on individuals
2.15 or nonpublic data unless the data are public under section 13.82, subdivision 2, 3, or 6, or
2.16 are active criminal investigative data under section 13.82, subdivision 7.

2.17 (c) Data collected by an automated license plate reader may only be matched with data
2.18 in the Minnesota license plate data file, provided that a law enforcement agency may use
2.19 additional sources of data for matching if the additional data relate to an active criminal
2.20 investigation. ~~A central state repository of automated license plate reader data is prohibited~~
2.21 ~~unless explicitly authorized by law.~~

2.22 (d) Automated license plate readers must not be used to monitor or track an individual
2.23 who is the subject of an active criminal investigation unless authorized by a warrant, issued
2.24 upon probable cause, or exigent circumstances justify the use without obtaining a warrant.

2.25 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 13.824, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

2.26 Subd. 3. **Destruction of data required.** (a) Notwithstanding section 138.17, and except
2.27 as otherwise provided in this subdivision, data collected by an automated license plate reader
2.28 that are not related to an active criminal investigation must be destroyed no later than ~~60~~
2.29 days 48 hours from the ~~date~~ time of collection.

2.30 (b) Upon written request from an individual who is the subject of a pending criminal
2.31 charge or complaint, along with the case or complaint number and a statement that the data

3.1 may be used as exculpatory evidence, data otherwise subject to destruction under paragraph
3.2 (a) must be preserved by the law enforcement agency until the criminal charge or complaint
3.3 is resolved or dismissed.

3.4 (c) Upon written request from a program participant under chapter 5B, automated license
3.5 plate reader data related to the program participant must be destroyed at the time of collection
3.6 or upon receipt of the request, whichever occurs later, unless the data are active criminal
3.7 investigative data. The existence of a request submitted under this paragraph is private data
3.8 on individuals.

3.9 (d) Data that are inactive criminal investigative data are subject to destruction according
3.10 to the retention schedule for the data established under section 138.17.

3.11 Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 13.824, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

3.12 Subd. 7. **Authorization to access data.** (a) A law enforcement agency must comply
3.13 with sections 13.05, subdivision 5, and 13.055 in the operation of automated license plate
3.14 readers, and in maintaining automated license plate reader data.

3.15 (b) The responsible authority for a law enforcement agency must establish written
3.16 procedures to ensure that law enforcement personnel have access to the data only if authorized
3.17 in writing by the chief of police, sheriff, or head of the law enforcement agency, or their
3.18 designee, to obtain access to data collected by an automated license plate reader for a
3.19 legitimate, specified, and documented law enforcement purpose. Consistent with the
3.20 requirements of paragraph (c), each access must be based on a reasonable suspicion that
3.21 the data are pertinent to an active criminal investigation and must include a record of the
3.22 factual basis for the access and any associated case number, complaint, or incident that is
3.23 the basis for the access.

3.24 (c) The ability of authorized individuals to enter, update, or access automated license
3.25 plate reader data must be limited through the use of role-based access that corresponds to
3.26 the official duties or training level of the individual and the statutory authorization that
3.27 grants access for that purpose. All queries and responses, and all actions in which data are
3.28 entered, updated, accessed, shared, or disseminated, must be recorded in a data audit trail.
3.29 Data contained in the audit trail are public, to the extent that the data are not otherwise
3.30 classified by law.

3.31 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, automated license plate reader
3.32 data may not be accessed, disseminated, or shared outside the state unless required by a
3.33 court order or judicial warrant. For purposes of this subdivision, "outside the state" includes

4.1 federal agencies, states other than Minnesota, private entities, and organizations operating
4.2 under agreement among the states or between one or more states and the federal government.

4.3 **Sec. 6. [299C.158] AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER DATA**
4.4 **MANAGEMENT.**

4.5 (a) The Bureau of Criminal Apprehension shall administer and maintain all data collected,
4.6 created, or received by an automated license plate reader operated by a law enforcement
4.7 agency of the state or of a political subdivision. The bureau must store all automated license
4.8 plate reader data on a server located within the state.

4.9 (b) Treatment of automated license plate reader data is governed by section 13.824.
4.10 Pursuant to section 13.05, subdivision 11, any contract or agreement entered into by the
4.11 bureau regarding the administration or management of automated license plate reader data
4.12 must comply with this section and section 13.824.

4.13 **Sec. 7. [325M.40] AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READERS.**

4.14 Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For purposes of this section, "automated license plate
4.15 recognition system" or "ALPR system" means a searchable computerized database resulting
4.16 from the operation of one or more mobile or fixed cameras combined with computer
4.17 algorithms to read and convert images of registration plates and the characters they contain
4.18 into computer-readable data.

4.19 Subd. 2. **Scope; government entities excluded.** This section does not apply to a
4.20 government entity, as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 7a. The use of an ALPR system
4.21 by a government entity is governed by section 13.824.

4.22 Subd. 3. **Private use regulated.** (a) A person collecting data for an ALPR system must
4.23 post a sign or number of signs sufficiently prominent to inform the driver of any vehicle
4.24 captured by the camera that the ALPR system is in use.

4.25 (b) A person may not sell, transfer, share, or disseminate ALPR system data about an
4.26 individual or an individual's vehicle without the individual's affirmative consent, a court
4.27 order, or a judicial warrant.

4.28 (c) Data collected by an ALPR system is personal data, as defined by section 325M.11,
4.29 and is subject to sections 325M.10 to 325M.21 as applicable.

5.1 Sec. 8. **TRANSFER OF AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER DATA TO**
5.2 **THE BUREAU OF CRIMINAL APPREHENSION.**

5.3 No later than December 1, 2026, a law enforcement agency that uses an automated
5.4 license plate reader or automated license plate reader technology under Minnesota Statutes,
5.5 section 13.824, must transfer all automated license plate reader data maintained by the
5.6 agency to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, unless the data is active or inactive criminal
5.7 investigative data under Minnesota Statutes, section 13.82, subdivision 7.

5.8 Sec. 9. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

5.9 This act is effective the day following final enactment.