

As summer rolls along and a new month arrives, a number of laws take effect on August 1st that may affect your daily life.

### **No Charges on Lost Cell Phones**

Lost your cell phone? Under a new law, customers are no longer responsible for charges a finder of the cell phone may accumulate. If you lose your phone, by notifying the provider and agreeing to suspend use of the wireless device, you will not be liable for unauthorized charges.

### **Tougher Penalties on Sex Traffickers**

Criminal penalties on sex traffickers have become more severe as part of an overall push to stop sex trafficking in Minnesota. The fine has been increased, while a new provision allows for a twenty-five year sentence for first and second-degree cases involving certain aggravating factors including repeat offenders, bodily harm to the victim, or more than one victim involved.

### **Windshield Mounted GPS Systems**

You can now lawfully mount an electronic GPS system near the bottom of your vehicle's windshield. Previously only rear-view mirrors, sun visors, and electronic toll collection devices were allowed under the law.

### **Passing Speed Limit Increased**

You may now legally exceed the posted speed limit by 10 miles per hour when passing another vehicle travelling in the same direction on a two-lane highway with a speed limit of at least 55 miles per hour.

### **Parks, Hunting, and Fishing**

You may now obtain multiple vehicle permits for state parks beyond the previous limit of two. Also related to state parks, you may now fish from the shore of waters wholly contained within a state park as long as no trout stamp is required.

Hunting license provisions have been changed to allow residents discharged from active military service within the last two years may to obtain a deer hunting license free of charge.

Residents age 16 may now fish for free on "Take a Kid Fishing Weekend" when accompanying a child under age 16. Previously, the age limit to fish for free when accompanying a child was 18.

As always, feel free to contact me about these laws and any other policy concerns you may have.

Your representative,

Peggy Scott