



January 30, 2023

Representative Kelly Moller, Chair, House Public Safety Committee  
509 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Moller and Members of the Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee:

The Association of Metropolitan Municipalities (Metro Cities) and the Municipal Legislative Commission (MLC) appreciate the opportunity to comment on HF 281 (Witte), which is being heard in the Public Safety Committee on Thursday. Our organizations, which represent cities throughout the metropolitan region, support this bill.

The crime of carjacking is a matter of high concern for cities in the metropolitan area. Carjackings have increased significantly over the last few years, and they have serious consequences for individual victims and community public safety.

Our organizations support efforts to bolster existing coordination efforts among state and local law enforcement agencies and support the collection and compilation of carjacking data. With comprehensive data on carjacking, future funding and policy decisions can be appropriately targeted. Including carjacking as its own category in the MN Department of Public Safety's annual Unified Crime Report represents a positive step in addressing these crimes.

We also encourage consideration of additional legislation that could include funding for the State Patrol to assist local jurisdictions with air support, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's intelligence gathering capabilities, overtime costs associated with targeted law enforcement saturations, and diversionary programs with a particular focus on youth.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike Lund'.

Mike Lund  
Government Relations Specialist  
Metro Cities

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jim Hovland'.

Jim Hovland  
Chair  
Municipal Legislative Commission