



April 8, 2024

Dear Chair Klevorn and Members of the House State and Local Government Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area, appreciates the opportunity to comment on HF 4413 (Koegel), which is being heard in the State and Local Government Committee on Tuesday.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, many cities pivoted to remote work while maintaining, and even increasing, transparency and accessibility. Metro Cities supports amending the Open Meeting Law to allow members on advisory public bodies to participate remotely. Metro Cities' policy specifically calls for the ability of city board and commission members to participate remotely in up to fifty percent of scheduled meetings each year. If passed, HF 4413 may also assist cities across the region and state to recruit and retain residents for local boards and commissions.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael Lund'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mike Lund
Government Relations Specialist
Metro Cities