



March 27, 2023

Chair Kelly Moller  
Members of the House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee

**RE: HF 2890 (Moller) – Omnibus judiciary and public safety finance and policy**

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

On behalf of the League of Minnesota Cities' 838 member cities, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HF 2890 as amended by the DE-1, the omnibus judiciary and public safety finance and policy bill.

While the League is tracking dozens of provisions of importance to cities in this bill, I am writing to highlight support for the following provisions:

- Youth Intervention Programs (lines 12.3-12.6);
- Community Co-Responder Grants (lines 12.7-12.34);
- First Responder Mental Health Curriculum (lines 13.24-14.5, 32.23-33.9); and
- Mental Health Services for First Responders Grant Program (lines 16.3-16.7, 31.23-32.22).

The League has concerns with provisions in Article 3, Section 6 (lines 71.3-72.8) that would expand "killed in the line of duty" to include disabling cancers linked to carcinogens. As drafted, this provision pertains to all public safety officers, including law enforcement, regardless of job-related exposure to carcinogens. It provides a benefit to employees without consideration of non-job-related risks (tobacco use, outside occupational exposure, family health history, etc.).

Finally, the League supports Governor Tim Walz's proposal to establish a First Responder Wellness Office within the Department of Public Safety. This was not included as a provision in HF 2890 as amended, and the League respectfully requests the committee considers adding this important provision that would benefit first responders statewide.

The League looks forward to working with you as this legislation advances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne Finn".

Anne Finn  
Intergovernmental Relations Director