



Association of Minnesota Counties

February 14, 2023

Chair Lislegard and Members of the House Property Tax Subdivision,

On behalf of the Association of Minnesota Counties, an organization representing all of Minnesota's 87 county governments, I write to provide input related to a variety of bills before the committee today.

Comprehensive property tax relief ranked as a top priority for the Association of Minnesota Counties membership this year. As members aware, historic increases in residential market values have created drastic shifts in property taxes across the State. Many of these shifts are disproportionately impacting already property tax burdened households who have limited means to accommodate sizable increases in property taxes. Counties recognize that homeownership and housing stability are key tenants in any successful community and that providing property tax relief to make these goals more achievable is an important priority for members this session.

From a local government perspective, comprehensive property tax relief includes investments in levy reduction mechanisms, protection of continued erosion of community tax base, as well as direct property tax relief programs. **To this extent, AMC is supportive of the following bills which all seek to provide targeted property tax relief by expanding established tax relief mechanisms to provide targeted, and needed, tax relief:**

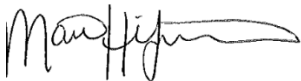
- HF 700 (Rep. Youakim)—expands the Targeted Property Tax Refund program to accommodate property taxes that increased more than ten percent from property taxes payable in the previous year and increases maximum of the total allowable refund.
- HF 1506 (Rep. Lislegard)— increases the maximum Homestead Credit Refund, reduces co-pay percentages, and reduces income thresholds used to calculate eligibility.
- HF 1504 (Rep. Norris)—increases the maximum exclusion level allowed under the Homestead Market Value Exclusion.

Together, these bills offer an impressive and impactful strategy to combat residential property tax shifts and provide meaningful relief and housing security.

AMC thanks all authors for their work offers our support throughout session.

Sincerely,

Matt Hilgart
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Matt Hilgart, Government Relations Manager
Association of Minnesota Counties