



February 29, 2024

Re: HF 3679

Dear House State and Local Government Finance and Policy Chair, Rep. Ginny Klevorn and Committee Members:

The Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), on behalf of Minnesota's 87 counties, **supports changes to municipal telecommunications services in HF 3679.**

AMC has long supported initiatives that make it easier for counties, cities, municipal utilities, schools, libraries, and other public sector entities to collaborate and deploy broadband infrastructure and services at the local and regional level. Specifically, AMC supports removing barriers to the exercise of local authority to provide such services, including repealing the portion of Minn. Stat. § 237.19 that requires a supermajority voter approval for the provision of municipal broadband service by a local unit of government.

Again, we encourage you to **support HF 3679**. Making it easier for local governments to provide broadband service would increase competition in the broadband market, leading to better outcomes for Minnesota broadband consumers.

Sincerely,

Nathan Zacharias, Technology Policy Analyst
Association of Minnesota Counties