



January 30, 2023

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

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area appreciates the opportunity to comment on HF 100 – Stephenson, as it is heard in the State and Local Government Committee on Tuesday.

Metro Cities has specific concerns with the bill as it relates to roles and responsibilities for local governments, specifically on regulation and the provision and cost of local public services.

Article 1, Section 13 of the bill would strip the ability of cities to provide local oversight and regulation on the sale of cannabis. Metro Cities supports cities maintaining the authority to license adult-use cannabis retailers, including the authority of cities to opt out of authorizing the sale of products in their local jurisdiction. Local licensing and regulation are vital in managing local implementation and enforcement of state laws, and for the provision of public safety.

Metro Cities appreciates the inclusion of municipal representatives on the Cannabis Advisory Council and the requirement for the Office of Cannabis Management to conduct an annual report that includes information on recommended funding levels for peace officer training. State appropriations in HF 100 must recognize the additional financial and local staffing pressures adult-use cannabis legalization will put on cities and local law enforcement agencies.

Metro Cities stands ready to work with the bill's author, members of this committee, and other stakeholders to ensure any regulatory framework developed for adult-use cannabis involves input by city officials and addresses the needs of local jurisdictions.

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 "Mike Lund". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mike Lund
Government Relations Specialist
Metro Cities