



February 18, 2021

Dear Committee Chair,

As members of the tourism and hospitality community in Minnesota, we support efforts to pass House File #1066 / SF #968 legislation authorizing local governments to create a "Tourism Improvement District" through a local ordinance process.

The tourism and hospitality industry has been one of the hardest hit industries during the COVID-19 pandemic and will likely be one of the last to recover. This legislation is crucial to the economic recovery of our industry. Tourism Improvement Districts have been established by approximately 200 cities in 18 states across the country. This is a self-funded initiative that would not require any government dollars and would generate significant revenue to aid in expediting the recovery of this economic driving industry.

We ask for your support of this bill so that communities across Minnesota can accelerate the much-needed recovery of the state's tourism and hospitality industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Megan Christianson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'M'.

Megan Christianson, Chair
Minnesota Arrowhead Association

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth Pierce". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Beth Pierce, Secretary/Treasurer
Minnesota Arrowhead Association