



March 16, 2023

Dear Chair Hornstein and Members of the Transportation Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area, appreciates the opportunity to comment on HF 2183 (Elkins), which is being heard in the Transportation Committee on Friday.

The Driver and Vehicle Services Report on the Independent Expert Review (2022) emphasized the key role of deputy registrars in the broader DVS ecosystem. As the state works to identify efficiencies in the vehicle registration process and system, policy makers must consider the effects of changes on the financial viability of deputy registrars resulting from decreases in transaction fees collected by local registrars.

Metro Cities supports increases to existing transaction fee levels that are set by state law, to ensure that local deputy registrars can sufficiently function and meet continually evolving local registrar service needs and address any necessary modifications to registrar operations to ensure these services can be provided safely to the public. Metro Cities supports the funding in HF 2183 that would provide funding for deputy registrars in amounts that reflect the number of transactions performed by each office.

Metro Cities is encouraged to see several of the items required in the department's report to the legislature including identifying the practicability of converting limited driver's license agents to full-service providers, providing on-demand support for deputy registrars, including deputy registrars in the MNDRIIVE enhancement process, and studying the feasibility of revenue sharing between DVS and Deputy Registrars for mail and online transactions.

We thank Representative Elkins for his work over the years regarding deputy registrars. Thank you, members of the committee, for your consideration of this letter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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

Mike Lund
Government Relations Specialist
Metro Cities