

Chair Kelly Moller  
Chair Paul Novotny  
House Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee  
Minnesota House of Representatives  
Saint Paul, Minnesota

April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Dear Chair Moller, Chair Novotny, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) and the Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA), we have come together in support of HF2099 to bring state support to our state's emergency managers. Local emergency management roles and critical mandated duties under Chapter 12 of the Minnesota state statutes are in jeopardy due to a lack of support. We urge your support of HF2099 to ensure the stability of these positions that protect the lives and livelihoods of Minnesotans.

Minnesota's local emergency managers are on the frontlines when disasters strike. Emergency managers are pivotal in safeguarding communities, serving as the architects of disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts.

With cuts to federal funding which provide the majority of support for these positions, many counties face the difficult decision of reducing or eliminating these roles, further jeopardizing their ability to respond to emergencies. This creates a dangerous scenario where communities may be left without the expertise needed to manage evacuations, establish emergency shelters, and distribute essential resources. Prior to recent cuts, the funding levels have not kept pace with the growing complexity and frequency of disasters that range from weather-related to cybersecurity threats, placing our communities in danger.

We strongly urge the committee to support dedicated, sustainable funding for local emergency management that addresses critical priorities. This funding is essential to ensuring that local emergency managers have the resources necessary to develop, implement, and maintain comprehensive emergency plans; conduct training and exercises; and coordinate response and recovery efforts during disasters.

We urge you to prioritize emergency management funding this legislative session. We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with you to advance this crucial investment and ensure Minnesota communities remain safe, secure, and well-supported.



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