



Association of
Minnesota Counties

April 5, 2023

Re: HF 4749

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

On behalf of the Minnesota County IT Leadership Association (MNCITLA) and the Association of MN Counties (AMC), **I am writing to express our support HF 4749**, which would, in part, require local governments and other public-sector organizations to report actual and potential cybersecurity incidents to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) and MNIT.

AMC and MNCITLA believe that state and local government functions better when there is open communication and collaboration. This is especially true with cybersecurity. Threats and incidents on county networks have dramatically increased in recent years. Counties are responsible for immense amounts of sensitive data. And while counties are making investments in security infrastructure and end-user best practices, an additional tool (HF 4749) will help counties further strengthen their cybersecurity posture.

County IT leaders across all 87 Minnesota Counties will benefit from MNIT's ability to issue threat bulletins in response to incident reports. Additionally, an anonymized, collective incident report to the Legislature—and shared with counties—will help state and local IT leaders strategize on where to deploy resources currently available and how to develop further resources to thwart future cyberattacks.

In addition to information gathering and sharing, MNCITLA and AMC would welcome the opportunity to discuss state financial assistance to improve cybersecurity in local government.

Thank you for considering our perspective and we urge you to support HF 4749.

Sincerely,

Nathan Zacharias
Technology Policy Analyst, Association of Minnesota Counties
Executive Director, MN County IT Leadership Association