

I am writing on behalf of the City of Ely to state our opposition to HF1085 that preempts city authority pertaining to residential development. Ely has always been fully compliant in maintaining its Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The Plan is continually updated as well as zoning ordinances in accordance with requirements set forth by the State of Minnesota. Ely adopted the state building codes several years ago and contracts with a state building official to insure residential construction and remodels meet all code requirements. Evaluating permit fees based on square footage is just wrong. Every remodel or new construction is unique and the green energy initiative is being applied in many remodels requiring extensive inspections.

It is absolutely wrong to allow a contractor to come in and override the COMP Plan and current city ordinances that are reviewed and accepted by the general public during public hearings. This bill must die in committee. Ely supports the LMC opposition to HF1085.

Vote NO vote in the committee hearing scheduled for tomorrow, March 19, 2021.

Respectfully,

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Chuck Novak  
Mayor  
City of Ely