



Minnesota Inter-County Association

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Sent Via Email

February 18, 2021

Representative Marquart, Chair
House Tax Committee
597 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Marquart:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HF991 (Marquart), the Governor's omnibus tax and local government aid recommendations for FY 2022-23.

The Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA) strongly supports the Governor's recommendations that maintain current law funding for County Program Aid (CPA), PILT, and other local tax aids and credits. We greatly appreciate the Governor's and Legislature's continued support to maintain the critical general-purpose nature of CPA in recognition of the unfunded costs counties incur to administer state-determined, county administered programs.

The ongoing COVID pandemic poses unparalleled challenges for individuals, businesses, communities, and public budgets. Counties continue to prioritize assisting Minnesotans with COVID response and recovery, just as we have since the start of pandemic by providing housing and emergency assistance to individuals, distributing economic relief to small businesses, and now distributing COVID vaccinations. CPA is essential to moderating property tax burdens as the economy recovers.

MICA urges that the approved biennial budget include the Governor's recommendation to fund property tax aids and credits and also avoid funding reductions and cost shifts that would inevitably increase county property tax burdens.

Sincerely,

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