

March 15, 2021

Representative Mike Sundin, Chair, House Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee 417 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Sundin and Members of the Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area, supports HF 718 (Vang), which is being heard in the Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee on Wednesday.

City officials must have an adequate level of local decision-making authority in order to serve the local needs of the community. HF 718 allows cities to regulate pollinator-lethal pesticides in a manner that best suits the needs of their local jurisdiction. Metro Cities appreciates that the language in this bill is permissive, leaving the choice to further regulate these pesticides up to the people who live where these products may be used. City officials also intend to work in close collaboration with the Department of Agriculture and other subject matter experts.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michael Lund Government Relations Specialist Metro Cities