

April 1, 2025

Re: <u>HF 1999 (Government Data Practices)</u>

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Finance and Civil Law Committee:

I write as executive director of the Minnesota Newspaper Association to let you know that we have carefully examined HF 1999. We agree that the focus of the bill—the issue of costs imposed on local governments by certain kinds of data requests—is an important one.

Rep. Greene has reached out to us for input, which we have provided as the proposal has evolved. We believe that with adoption of the Delete-All amendment, the bill would address and largely resolve a situation that recurs regularly around the state, and which inflicts unnecessary time and cost on local governments.

We very much appreciate Rep. Greene's ongoing willingness to consult with us and her work to address this issue.

Thank you for your consideration of our views on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Spa Hills

Lisa Hills Executive Director, Minnesota Newspaper Association