

March 29, 2023

Re: HF 1830, House State and Local Government Finance Omnibus Bill

Dear Chair Klevorn and Members of the House State and Local Government Finance and Policy Committee:

On behalf of the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), an organization representing all of Minnesota's 87 counties, we write to submit feedback on provisions being considered in the State and Local Government Finance Omnibus bill. As always, do not hesitate to reach out for additional information, member feedback, or questions.

Local Government Cybersecurity Grants (House Article 2, Section 40)

As members are well aware, cybersecurity threats pose a significant threat in today's interconnected world. For counties who manage several IT platforms that host a variety of private financial, health, and property tax information—threats of system hacks and exposure are a daily concern. AMC appreciates and supports the House's proposal providing significant financial resources in the form of local government grants through MN.IT to address increased cybersecurity threats.

AMC and MNCITLA are also supportive of the MN.IT appropriations for cybersecurity and cloud computing transformation acknowledging that the State regularly maintains and operates a plethora of software and programs utilized by county employees every single day.

Public Land Survey System Investments (House Article 1, Section 47)

County commissioners and engineers appreciate the inclusion of HF 1231 in the omnibus Finance bill. Counties have been increasingly concerned about the deterioration of the Public Land Survey System (PLSS). Over time, PLSS monuments and have been lost, damaged, or misplaced. As members have pointed out in prior committee discussions, PLSS is the basis for all real property descriptions and should be considered foundational infrastructure for real property, businesses, and government agencies. AMC is grateful for the funding amounts included in HF 1830 for the re-monumentation of PLSS and we desire to be a partner in the process to complete this important task.

In summary, we thank members for their attention to these issues and look forward to further collaboration in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

Matt Hilgart Government Relations Manager Association of Minnesota Counties

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