

Sent Via Email

March 16, 2022

Senator Warren Limmer , Chair
Judiciary and Public Safety Finance and Policy
Room 3221, Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Avenue West
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Limmer and Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Finance and Policy Members:

The Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA) represents fifteen of Minnesota's larger and faster growing counties, including four suburban and 11 Greater MN counties.

MICA supports SF354 (Weber) to provide base funding for emergency management readiness planning.

SF534 was initially introduced in 2019 to ensure consistent local funding is available for every county and Tribal government for emergency management and preparedness (EMPG) activities. Both local and statewide emergency preparedness is strengthened when all counties have a fully developed plan and trained staff. With past federal funding for this purpose proving unreliable, the capacity of all counties to undertake this work on a regular basis is varied across the state. Permanent funding proposed in SF534 would position all counties to carry out the local public safety programs required under the law.

Thank you to Senator Weber for introducing the legislation and to Chair Limmer and Committee members for considering the bill today.

Sincerely,



Matt Massman, Executive Director
Minnesota Inter-County Association
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