



February 28, 2022

Senator Jasinski, Chair  
Senate Committee on Local Government Policy

**RE: S.F. 2647 (Coleman)-- Local Road Improvement Program Advisory Committee membership amendment**

Chair Jasinski and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), a statewide association representing all 87 Minnesota Counties, and the League of Minnesota Cities (LMC), a statewide association representing 837 of Minnesota's 854 cities, we are writing to express concerns with S.F. 2647 (Coleman) that would modify the membership of the Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) Advisory Committee. The bill would add two township representatives to the committee, including one town board member and one town engineer.

AMC and LMC do not object to the Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) appointing one member to the LRIP, but we believe having two representatives would be disproportionate to the amount of funding townships receive from the LRIP in comparison to counties and cities. Furthermore, we are not aware of a township that employs an in-house engineer, and we think it would pose a conflict of interest for MAT to appoint a consultant to serve as the town engineer representative. Generally speaking, the county engineer works closely with townships on road and bridge projects, and the county engineer who is appointed to the LRIP Advisory Committee can consider township needs and interests.

We respectfully request that the bill be amended to reduce the MAT appointment to one town board member and not include the appointment of a town engineer. We have shared this request with the author and proponents of S.F. 2647. Thank you for considering our concerns and please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Emily Murray  
Transportation & Infrastructure Policy Analyst  
Association of Minnesota Counties

Anne Finn  
Asst. Intergovernmental Relations Director  
League of Minnesota Cities