



March 29, 2023

Dear Chair Champion and Members of the Senate Jobs and Economic Development Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the shared interests of cities across the metropolitan area, appreciates the opportunity to comment on HF 3035 – Champion, as amended by the DE amendment.

Metro Cities supports resources in the bill that addresses funding for the Minnesota Investment Fund and the Job Creation Fund. These programs support new and expanding businesses through providing financing to help add new workers and retain high-quality jobs on a statewide basis, and financial incentives that meet certain job creation and capital investment targets.

Metro Cities supports the inclusion of increased and sustained state funds for the Redevelopment Grant and Demolition Loan Program in the bill that support metropolitan area projects at the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED).

Redevelopment facilitates the re-use of previously developed land, thereby leveling the playing field between greenfield and brownfield sites so that a developer can choose to locate on land that has already been used. Redeveloping properties supports community vibrancy and revitalization.

Metro Cities supports the inclusion of a variety of workforce programs in the bill, including youth employment programs and other workforce training programs administered by the state that will lead to jobs that provide a living wage and benefits, support workers of all abilities, and help address racial disparity gaps in employment.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ania McDonnell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ania McDonnell
Government Relations Specialist