

March 22, 2023

Senator Ron Latz, Chair
Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee
3105 Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Avenue West,
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Chair Latz and Members of the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee,

The Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA) supports SF2380, authored by Senator Seeberger, to increase state appropriations for community supervision by \$83.2 million beginning in FY2024.

Minnesota is last in the nation in state funding for corrections. This reality is also reflected in the inadequate funding levels for probation services and community corrections. Minnesota relies heavily on community supervision to protect the public and reduce crime by getting clients the help they need to be productive in their community. These evidenced-based strategies for a community supervision system cannot be consistently and universally provided across the state without sufficient funding. We appreciate Senator Seeberger's leadership on this critical public safety and human issue.

Counties also urge adoption of a new and more equitable funding formula for community supervision developed by counties, in consultation with the Department of Corrections, by adopting SF2380.

Creating a funding model for community supervision that is transparent, needs based, and equitable among county and state supervision providers is a top MICA public safety priority for 2023. Over this past year, a representative County Work Group collaborated to develop a data-driven formula that funds all probation systems through a single formula. This formula is based on a capitated rate derived through analysis of the costs incurred to deliver effective, evidenced-based supervision services. The bill reflects those recommendations, and supports supervision standards that will further enhance the continuity and efficacy of community supervision across all three delivery systems.

Strengthening community supervision funding formulas have been the focus of county efforts for years. Under SF2380, all three probation delivery systems are retained, and appropriations are set at a level needed to ensure more equitable and sustainable funding. We strongly urge the legislature to adopt SF2380.

We again thank Senator Seeberger and co-authors, and we stand ready to work with legislators and stakeholders to refine this legislation as needed toward its final passage.



Matt Massman, Executive Director
Minnesota Inter-County Association