



April 2, 2024

Senator Sandra Pappas  
Representative Athena Hollins

**RE: SF 4455/HF 4461—Copper metal sale license requirement**

Dear Senator Pappas and Representative Hollins,

The League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) is an association serving 838 of Minnesota's 855 cities through advocacy, education and training, policy development, risk management and other services.

Thank you for authoring SF 4455/HF 4461, a bill that requires individuals selling or purchasing scrap metal copper to hold a license to do so. The League supports this legislation.

The high cost of copper has led to an increase in copper wire thefts from private property as well as streetlights, signal lights and other public infrastructure. Stolen copper wire is sold to businesses that profit from selling recycled metal. Copper wire thefts compromise public safety by disabling streetlights and traffic signals. The cost to repair and replace infrastructure damaged by copper wire thefts is borne by taxpayers.

The League of Minnesota Cities supports efforts to curtail the theft of copper wire from public infrastructure and private property. The League supports statutory changes that prevent metal recycling businesses from purchasing and reselling stolen copper, and this bill is a key step in that direction.

We look forward to working with you to advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne Finn", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Anne Finn  
Intergovernmental Relations Director