



March 12, 2024

Chair Carlson and Members of the Senate Election Committee:

On behalf of the League of Minnesota Cities and the Association of Minnesota Counties, we write to support SF1071, a bill that represents years of conversations and amendments from the advocate and local election official communities. This bill would provide local governments the ability to consider and ultimately adopt Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) after garnering community input/support and authorizing it under certain conditions.

AMC and LMC are grateful to current and past authors and advocates for their willingness to listen to local concerns and make considerations for robust procedures to be put in place that include reviewal and input from local election administrators and the Secretary of State's Office.

We are equally grateful for author and advocate considerations of local government conciliation language surrounding the authorization of RCV in jurisdictions that do not administer their own elections. The language of the bill today is the result of city and county conversations on how best to honor local government control while also reflect the administrative burdens of RCV implementation, respect of local capacity, and good practice of intergovernmental communication and coordination.

In closing, we understand that RCV remains an issue that elicits strong feedback from different perspectives. As a core principle, however, AMC and LMC support locally elected officials having the ability to decide what works best for their residents and voters. We believe SF1071 honors this principle.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pierre Willette".

Pierre Willette
Senior Intergovernmental Relations
Representative
League of Minnesota Cities

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Hilgart".

Matt Hilgart
Government Relations Manager
Association of Minnesota Counties

