



March 11, 2025

Re: SF 787 - Open meeting laws unlimited remote participation authorization modification provision

Chair Xiong and members of the Senate State and Local Government committee:

The League of Minnesota Cities, representing 841 member cities across the state, appreciates the opportunity to comment on SF 787. We support amending the Open Meeting Law (OML) to allow city councilmembers and board/commission members to participate in meetings remotely without requiring their location to be open and accessible to the public, as currently mandated under Minn. Stat. § 13D.02, subd. 1.

Advancements in technology have revolutionized the way city business can be conducted. Under the OML, members may only attend meetings remotely if their location is 'open and accessible' to the public and proper notice is provided. On the occasions when members have attended meetings remotely and made their location 'open and accessible', no city residents have shown up at the remote location. Removing this requirement would preserve the public's ability to hear and see all discussion, testimony, and votes while allowing members the flexibility to participate in city business remotely.

Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Tori Kee'.

Intergovernmental Relations Representative & Attorney
League of Minnesota Cities