



March 19th, 2025

Dear Chair Latz and Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee Members,

Please accept this letter of support for SF2119 on behalf of the Minnesota Fire Association Coalition (MnFAC), which is comprised of the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association, the Minnesota State Fire Department Association, the Minnesota Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators, and the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota.

Many of our individual members serve as our city or township emergency managers and understand the importance of these roles in both the preparation for and recovery from disaster events. We all rely on established partnerships with our county, tribal, and cities of the first-class emergency managers to help us navigate through any event that may occur.

Local emergency management roles and critical duties of which are mandated by the State of Minnesota are in jeopardy due to a lack of financial support. Minnesota's local emergency managers are on the frontlines when disasters strike. Emergency managers are pivotal in safeguarding communities, serving as the architects of disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts.

With dwindling federal funding, many counties face the difficult decision of reducing or eliminating these roles, further jeopardizing their ability to respond to emergencies. This creates a dangerous scenario where communities may be left without the expertise needed to manage evacuations, establish emergency shelters, and distribute essential resources. Current funding levels have not kept pace with the growing complexity and frequency of disasters that range from weather-related to cybersecurity threats, placing our communities in danger.

We ask for your consideration of SF2119 which would support dedicated, sustainable funding for local emergency management and allow them to address critical priorities. This funding is essential to ensure that local emergency managers have the resources necessary to develop, implement, and maintain comprehensive emergency plans; conduct training and exercises; and coordinate response and recovery efforts during disasters.

MnFAC thanks you for your support of public safety and your consideration of this crucial investment to help ensure that Minnesota communities remain safe, secure, and well-supported.

Respectfully submitted,



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