

March 25, 2025

Senator Ron Latz, Chair Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety Minnesota Senate Office Building, Room 3105 95 University Avenue West St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for County Community Supervision (SF 2120)

Dear Chair Latz and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Olmsted County, I write to respectfully urge your support for <u>SF 2120</u>. Thank you for hearing the bill and for the opportunity to comment. We are also grateful to Senator Seeberger for authoring the bill.

SF 2120 implements a 3-year probation population average and fully funds the community supervision funding formula. This bill will ensure that local jurisdictions can continue curating tailored, evidence-based, responsive services that best meet the needs of clients within their respective communities; subsequently leading to better public safety outcomes for all. As a result of the revised funding formula that passed in 2023, Olmsted County was able to implement a conglomerate of evidence-based cognitive behavioral programs, a department-wide dosage supervision model, dedicate more time to high-risk individuals to address individual criminogenic needs, reconnect formerly incarcerated parents/caregivers with their children, and invest in re-entry housing for justice involved clients.

Olmsted county anticipates an increase of community supervision caseloads with the implementation of the Minnesota Rehabilitation Reinvestment Act (MRRA) in September 2025. Without full funding of the community supervision formula, statutorily required practice models such as MRRA and other statewide initiatives run the risk of reversing the progress made in the areas of safer communities, lower incarceration rates and costs, and better rehabilitation outcomes. We respectfully urge the legislature to fully fund the community supervision funding formula with a 3-year probation population average. Adoption of this bill will support sustainable, equitable, and effective supervision across Olmsted County and the state at a fraction of the cost of incarceration. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

FE970E678D0F40A...

3/25/2025 | 8:58 AM CDT

Mark Thein

Chair, Olmsted County Board of Commissioners