



## SCOTT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Senator Ron Latz, Chair  
Judiciary and Public Safety Committee  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3105  
St. Paul, MN 55155

March 25, 2025

**RE: Support for SF 2120 – Fully Funding Community Corrections**

Dear Chair Latz and members of the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee,

On behalf of Scott County, I am writing to express strong support for SF 2120, a bill that will implement a three-year average to fully fund our community supervision funding formula and ensure much-needed stability in our services.

Thanks to the revised funding formula, we have experienced significant improvements in our community supervision efforts. This has enabled us to expand evidence-based practices, lower caseloads, retain skilled staff, and introduce innovative reentry initiatives. Previously, the outdated funding formula—based on population data from 1996—created a substantial disparity in service offerings for Scott County as one of the fastest-growing counties in the state. As the number of high-risk individuals requiring supervision increased, we struggled to provide adequate support, resulting in inequities and rising recidivism rates. With the increase in funding, we have successfully addressed some of our resource limitations and are now better positioned to supervise more individuals effectively.

While we celebrate the positive impact of the revised formula on our community supervision programs, we recognize that gaps still exist in our programming that must be addressed to align fully with statewide outcomes. Additionally, the upcoming sunset of supervision fees poses another significant gap in our future funding. The elimination of these fees, without full funding, jeopardizes our ability to maintain essential programming and impacts our overall budget, further straining our resources. Without comprehensive investment in this critical area, we risk undoing the progress we have made and jeopardizing the financial stability of our probation offices. This could ultimately lead to a reduction in essential community-based programming, which is vital for enhancing public safety and achieving successful reentry outcomes.

Implementing a 3-year average system will provide the stability needed to hire and retain staff, sustain vital programming, and manage year-to-year budget fluctuations. Furthermore, with the anticipated increase in community supervision caseloads following the implementation of the Minnesota Rehabilitation and Reinvestment Act (MRRA), adequate investment in supervision, housing, mental health services, and job training is imperative.

We respectfully urge the legislature to ensure that the community supervision services are fully funded and that the proposed funding mechanisms, including implementing a 3-year average, are adopted. These measures will safeguard the progress we have made, support the expansion of evidence-based practices, and strengthen public safety at a fraction of the cost of incarceration.

Thank you for your continued support of community supervision services and our probation officers. We appreciate your commitment to policies that enhance community safety and support effective reentry for individuals transitioning from incarceration.

Sincerely,

Dave Beer

Chair, Scott County Board of Commissioners