



April 1, 2025

**Re: SF 2944 – Aid Penalty Forgiveness provided to the city of Alpha**

Chair Rest and members of the Senate Tax Committee:

The League of Minnesota Cities appreciates the opportunity to comment on SF 2944. We thank the author, Senator Weber, for his work on this issue. The League supports this legislation and asks for its inclusion in the committee's omnibus tax bill.

The League works closely with cities and the Office of the State Auditor (OSA) to help cities come into compliance with financial reporting requirements so that cities are able to receive their local government aid (LGA) payments on time. While it is an important tool to ensure local governments are filing these reports, it is also an extremely important funding source for cities and allows them to fund critical services.

In 2022 the city of Alpha was unable to meet the financial reporting requirements needed to receive their LGA payments in 2023. The city did come into compliance in 2023 for its 2024 aid payment. This bill provides a one-time appropriation to Alpha for the amount of aid withheld in 2023.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Beth Johnston'.

Beth Johnston  
Intergovernmental Relations Representative  
League of Minnesota Cities