



MICA MINNESOTA
INTER-COUNTY ASSOCIATION



May 17, 2022

Senator Mary Kiffmeyer
Senator Scott Newman
Senator Jeff Howe
Senator John Jasinski
Senator Scott Dibble

Representative Mike Nelson
Representative Frank Hornstein
Representative Mary Murphy
Representative Erin Koegel
Representative Jim Nash

Dear Conferees,

Thank you for your attention to the Driver & Vehicle Services Independent Expert Review. As you are aware, license bureaus operated by counties and cities make up nearly half of the deputy registrars providing licensing services to Minnesota's residents on behalf of the State of Minnesota.

The Minnesota Association of County Officers (MACO), Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA), and League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) recognize the high-quality work from Dr. King's team and generally support the findings of the report.

Most of the findings confirm that compensation for the shift in labor for services from DVS to local service providers has not been matched by a shift in fee allocations leaving public and private Deputy Registrar offices in a position where revenues are less than expenses. Counties and cities have the ability to make up for their losses through their levies, but historical intent has been for these services to be self-financing and growing tax levy subsidies raises the question by members of county boards and city councils across the state as to whether they can sustain these losses or discontinue providing these services.

While we continue to share the concerns of Minnesota's privately operated Deputy Registrars mandating that all Deputy Registrars become full-service driver license agents to be eligible for revenue sharing, our concern centers around the Minnesota Department of Public Safety's opposition to revenue sharing for on-line purchases.

Our associations continue to strongly support the IER recommendation that online and mail-in motor vehicle transaction filing fees captured by DVS be shared with private and public deputies even though doing so is opposed by the Department of Public Safety. This revenue sharing recommendation from Dr. King is essential to appropriately fund the significant labor shift from the state onto Deputy Registrars initiated by the Department's release of MNLARS.



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We appreciate the amount of time and care that Dr. King's team put into creating this Report and appreciate the time and attention the House and Senate Transportation Committees have invested on Deputy Registrars' issues this session.

Sincerely yours,

Julie Hanson
Scott County Property & Customer Service Manager, Deputy 135
Co-chair, Minnesota Association of County Officers Legislative Committee

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