

April 18, 2023

Dear Chair Olson and Members, House Ways and Means Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the shared interests of cities across the metropolitan area at the Legislature and Executive Branch, appreciates the opportunity to comment on HF 3028 - Hassan, the omnibus economic development bill.

Metro Cities supports funding included in HF 3028 for the Minnesota Investment Fund and the Job Creation Fund. These programs support new and expanding businesses through providing financing to help add new workers and retain high-quality jobs on a statewide basis, and financial incentives that meet certain job creation and capital investment targets.

Metro Cities supports the inclusion of funding for the Redevelopment Grant and Demolition Loan Program that support metropolitan area projects at the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). Redeveloping properties supports community vibrancy and revitalization.

These programs support cities throughout the metropolitan region in their efforts to implement economic development projects to further enhance our regional economy in the metropolitan area and across the state.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

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Ania McDonnell Government Relations Specialist