

February 16, 2021

Representative Sandy Masin 543 State Office Building Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Representative Masin:

Metro Cities, representing cities across the seven-county metropolitan region, supports HF 325-Masin, that repeals the salary cap for local government salaries.

Metro Cities policies emphasize support for local decision making, including on decisions regarding compensation and benefits paid to city employees. Local officials are in the best position to determine their local staffing needs. The statutory salary cap is an artificial cap, and it limits cities in recruiting talented employees. While the state has the ability to grant exemptions and has done so over the years, the process is arbitrary and creates a high degree of uncertainty for cities as they address local staffing needs.

Thank you for sponsoring HF 325 to repeal the salary cap. Please let me know if you need further information.

Sincerely,

Patricia Nauman Executive Director