



March 23, 2021

Chair Masin
Local Government Division

Chair Masin and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a letter on HF 718 and we thank Rep. Vang for carrying it. The City of Minneapolis is in support of bill HF718, giving municipalities the option for reasonable control of warning signs and types of pesticides used in Minneapolis. All regulations and policy changes considered in our city would need to weigh beneficial uses of pesticides with environmental and human health consequences. We agree with the exceptions laid out in the bill for pet care, personal care, indoor pest control, as well as having a list maintained by the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, as they are experts in this field. The City of Minneapolis would not move forward with a local ordinance without consulting and working with knowledgeable industry experts, Department of Agriculture staff, and community groups before enacting a local ordinance. We believe this bill provides for reasonable local control within the equally reasonable confines of uniform standards that can be applied across the state and does not interfere with agriculture practices in greater Minnesota.

Steven Huser

Government Relations Representative
City of Minneapolis