



February 24, 2021

**Re: HF 715 - Resources to support construction career pathways**

Chair Noor and members of the House Workforce and Business Development Finance and Policy Committee:

The League of Minnesota Cities appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on our support for HF 715 and the provision for more resources to support construction industry education. Minnesota continues to experience a construction labor shortage, which not only has put pressure on Minnesota's housing and construction industries, but has also made it harder for cities to attract and train new city building officials that often come from careers in the construction industry.

Minnesota's housing and construction industries depend on the work of local building officials, and cities that enforce State Building Code depend on code administration and enforcement to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of residents. In providing \$375,000 in grant funding for fiscal years 2022 and 2023 to support educational opportunities that lead to careers in the construction industry, HF 715 will help train a new generation of construction industry professionals and assist with efforts to attract and train new building officials.

Thank you for your consideration and please join us in supporting HF 715.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Daniel Lightfoot'.

Daniel Lightfoot  
Intergovernmental Relations Representative  
League of Minnesota Cities