



Dedicated to a Strong Greater Minnesota

OPPOSE SF 1749/HF 1995

Bill stifles economic development, prevents thoughtful land use planning

SF 1749/HF 1995 prohibits a city from pursuing an annexation if the potential annexation area is covered by an Orderly Annexation Agreement with another city. On paper this may sound reasonable, but what happens in practice is that a township will often pit two cities against each other to get the best deal for the township, rather than what is best for the region's development.

SF 1749/HF 1995 is detrimental to economic development

- ❖ SF 1749/HF 1995 stifles economic development in many parts of the state—particularly in Greater Minnesota—where willing property owners are unable to have their land annexed so that they can develop it. This would be a stunning restriction of property owner rights.
 - A landowner could be denied the right to connect with city services when building a home.
 - A business owner could be denied the right to build or expand a business.
 - A city may not be able to include property purchased for public purposes—such as for wastewater treatment, water supply or an industrial park—in its own boundaries.
- ❖ SF 1749/HF 1995 will prevent cities from having a say in how they develop, and instead give townships disproportionate leverage in negotiating Orderly Annexation Agreements.
- ❖ SF 1749/HF 1995 would allow a township to enter an orderly annexation agreement with a city that never intends to annex in an effort to block all future annexations. The state could end up paying much more to fix infrastructure issues because the urbanized property is not located in a city and does not receive necessary services.