ST. PAUL—State Rep. Jim Knoblach was recognized by the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC) Aug. 3 during the Coalition’s three-day summer conference in Fergus Falls for his positive impact on the state’s tax policy.

Rep. Knoblach, a Republican from St. Cloud, is serving his eighth term in the Minnesota House. The Legislator of Distinction Award is given to legislators who played key roles in advancing CGMC’s policy during the preceding session.

As chair of the House Ways & Means Committee, Rep. Knoblach has long been a key supporter of the Local Government Aid (LGA) program, which is vital to keeping Greater Minnesota cities strong. This session, he was one of his party’s strongest voices in favor of including an LGA increase in the tax bill. The final bill that passed in May included a $15 million increase in LGA funding.

“Rep. Knoblach is a consistent and persistent advocate for Local Government Aid,” said Sara Carlon, mayor of Alexandria and president of the CGMC. “He continued to fight for an LGA increase throughout legislative negotiations and his outspoken support for the program was a major factor in securing an LGA boost this year.”

CGMC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization representing 90 cities outside of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The Coalition educates legislators about issues important to Greater Minnesota.

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