



Dedicated to a Strong Greater Minnesota

For Immediate Release
April 24, 2019

Contact: Julie Liew
651-259-1917
jliew@flaherty-hood.com

CGMC President: Senate tax bill fails Greater Minnesota cities

Below is a statement from CGMC President and Bemidji City Council Member Ron Johnson on the Senate tax bill, which fails to include any additional funding for Local Government Aid (LGA):

“A \$30.5 million increase in Local Government Aid is our organization’s highest priority, yet the Senate fails to add even one cent more to help our communities keep up with rising costs. Without an LGA increase, cities will fall further behind and continue to struggle to provide essential services that our residents and businesses rely on. The Senate position will undoubtedly lead to property tax increases and potential cuts to vital city services.

“The positive side is that there is still time for the Senate to reverse course. We are grateful that the Minnesota House and Gov. Walz have both been steadfast in their support for a \$30.5 million LGA increase this session. We are counting on them to continue to advocate for the needs of Greater Minnesota communities as negotiations heat up in the coming weeks.”

###

The Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities is a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization representing 97 cities outside of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The Coalition educates legislators about issues important to Greater Minnesota. Visit the CGMC online at greatermncities.org and follow us on Twitter [@greatermncities](https://twitter.com/greatermncities).