



**Dedicated to a Strong Greater Minnesota**

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Contact: Julie Liew  
[jliew@flaherty-hood.com](mailto:jliew@flaherty-hood.com)  
651-259-1917

## **State Senator Karin Housley receives CGMC Legislator of Distinction Award**

ST. PAUL—State Sen. Karin Housley was recognized by the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC) July 25 during the Coalition’s three-day summer conference in Bemidji for her positive impact on economic development in Greater Minnesota.

Sen. Housley, a Republican from St. Mary’s Point, is serving her second term in the Minnesota Senate. The Legislator of Distinction Award is given to legislators who played key roles in advancing CGMC’s policy during the preceding legislative session.

As chair of the Senate Family Care and Aging Committee, Sen. Housley showed a deep commitment to ensuring that families all across the state have access to child care and that communities have the resources necessary to provide high-quality care. She was a strong advocate for the CGMC’s proposal to provide funding to the Minnesota Initiative Foundations (MIFs) so that they can expand their efforts to provide business assistance and training to child care providers to help increase child care options in Greater Minnesota. Her efforts helped secured \$750,000 in state funding to be divided between the six MIFs for this purpose.

“The child care crisis is a huge concern in Greater Minnesota,” said Ron Johnson, a member of the Bemidji City Council and president of the CGMC. “Sen. Housley really took ownership of this issue and showed great initiative by fighting for practical solutions to this growing problem.”

CGMC 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.

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