



**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 Carla Nelson receives CGMC Legislator of Distinction Award**

ST. PAUL—State Sen. Carla Nelson 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. Nelson, a Republican from Rochester, is serving her third 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.

This session, Sen. Nelson was the chief author of a CGMC-supported bill to provide state 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 capacity in Greater Minnesota. A leader in the areas of education and child care, Sen. Nelson was instrumental in drumming up support for the proposal within her caucus and helping to secure \$750,000 in funding for the MIFs through the omnibus jobs bill.

“A champion of the cradle-to-workforce continuum, Sen. Nelson recognizes that child care is an important factor in making sure our state’s workforce, businesses and communities are healthy and strong,” said Ron Johnson, a member of the Bemidji City Council and president of the CGMC. “We are grateful that she is fighting to ensure that all families in Minnesota can have access to high-quality child care.”

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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