For Immediate Release
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State Senator Eric Pratt receives CGMC Legislator of Distinction Award

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

Sen. Pratt, a Republican from Prior Lake, is serving his 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 Jobs and Economic Growth Finance and Policy Committee, Sen. Pratt has shown that he cares about economic development concerns and opportunities that impact the entire state. The omnibus jobs bill that he authored as committee chair addressed several Greater Minnesota concerns, particularly child care and infrastructure needs. His efforts helped create a new Airport Infrastructure Renewal (AIR) Grant Program aimed at improving rural airports, as well as secure funding for new and existing child care programs. In addition, he vigorously defended the successful Greater Minnesota Business Development Public Infrastructure (BDPI) Grant Program from an attempt by some metro-area legislators to make potentially detrimental changes to the program.

“Sen. Pratt is a strong supporter of many Greater Minnesota initiatives,” said Ron Johnson, a member of the Bemidji City Council and president of the CGMC. “Despite being from the suburban metro area, it’s clear that he understands Greater Minnesota’s unique economic development needs. Our communities and businesses will benefit greatly from the proposals he helped pass this year.”

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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