

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-THIRD SESSION**

S.R. No. 54

(SENATE AUTHORS: REST)

DATE
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OFFICIAL STATUS

Introduction
Referred to Rules and Administration

A Senate resolution

congratulating Gary Carlson on his career with the League of Minnesota Cities and thanking him for over 30 years of representing Minnesota cities at the State Capitol.

WHEREAS, Gary Carlson is known in cities small and large across Minnesota as a champion for local government; and

WHEREAS, his career in government relations began in the city of Minneapolis in 1984, and he joined the law firm Briggs and Morgan, P.A., as a lobbyist in 1986; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, Gary began his decades-long service representing cities across Minnesota on behalf of the League of Minnesota Cities; and

WHEREAS, he quickly became known as a stalwart resource on local government issues, specifically tax and pension issues, and in 1994 he was promoted to intergovernmental relations director for the League of Minnesota Cities and has since been a trusted, resourceful, and admired leader of his team; and

WHEREAS, Gary is routinely consulted by legislators, state officials, reporters, stakeholders, and city officials across the state for his expert knowledge on Minnesota's local government history and issues. He brings a relentless work ethic and dedicated nonpartisan professionalism when advocating on issues impacting cities; and

WHEREAS, his accomplishments on behalf of cities include reworking the local government aid formula multiple times throughout his career to reflect and address the evolving needs of cities; securing funding to enhance city services; securing and enhancing pension finances and policies for the retirement security of thousands of public employees throughout the state; securing sales tax exemptions for local governments; and many other accomplishments in taxes and finance; and

WHEREAS, while Gary has never testified on bike lane legislation, he has demonstrated user support, accumulating over 10,000 miles biked to and from the Capitol; and

WHEREAS, rain or shine you will see Gary in tax committees and his Twitter account is an invaluable source of graphs, charts, and information on legislative process, statistics, history, and trivia. His tweets will be missed; and

WHEREAS, Gary is professional to all, a colleague to many, and a friend to many more; and

WHEREAS, this session marks Gary's 40th legislative session as a lobbyist; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that it thanks Gary Carlson for over 30 years of distinguished service on behalf of Minnesota cities, recognizes his contributions as a long-time resource to this body, and wishes him the best in his retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is directed to prepare an enrolled copy of this resolution, to be authenticated by the Secretary's signature and that of the Chair of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, and transmit it to Gary Carlson.

Tom Bottern
Secretary of the Senate

Kari Dziezic
Chair, Senate Committee on
Rules and Administration

Ann H. Rest
State Senator, District 43