

**COVID-19 Response Working Group
Minnesota Senate**

**Minnesota Coalition on Government Information (MNCOGI)
Written Testimony of Matt Ehling, MNCOGI Board Member
April 3, 2020**

Chair Gazelka,

MNCOGI extends its thanks to the members of the Senate COVID-19 Response Working Group for the adoption of remote technology to facilitate the recent meetings of this body. Our thanks also go out to the Senate staff involved with the logistical and technical undertakings necessary to conduct such remote hearings.

MNCOGI would specifically like to highlight the public testimony feature of these remote hearings, and we would encourage the Senate to:

1. Adopt remote meeting/hearing protocols (with contemporaneous public access via the internet) across all Senate committees during the duration of the pandemic emergency, and;
2. Include a public testimony feature in all such meeting and hearings.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Our board wishes good health and well being to all as they navigate the unique challenges of this difficult time.