

ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITIES (Metro Cities)

Legislative Policy Position: Regional Governance

Metro Cities supports the appointment of Metropolitan Council members by the Governor with four-year staggered terms for members, to stabilize ideological shifts and provide for continuity of knowledge on the Metropolitan Council, which is appropriate for a long-range planning body. The appointment of the Metropolitan Council's Chair should coincide with the term of the Governor.

Metro Cities supports a nominating committee process for the selection of Metropolitan Council members that maximizes participation and input by local officials. Metro Cities supports expanding the nominating committee from seven to 13 members, with a majority of a 13-member committee being local elected officials.

Metro Cities supports having the names of recommended nominees or other individuals under consideration for appointment to the Council by the Governor, to be made public at least 21 days prior to final selection by the Governor, and a formal public comment period before members are appointed.

Metro Cities supports the appointment of Metropolitan Council members who have demonstrated the ability to work with city officials in a collaborative manner, commit to meet with local officials regularly and who are responsive to the circumstances and concerns of cities in the district they represent on the Council.

Council members should understand the diversity and commonalities of the region, and the long-term implications of regional decision-making. A detailed position description outlining the required skills, time commitment and understanding of regional and local issues should be clearly articulated and posted in advance of the call for nominees.